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Mrs John H Abel  
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APV  
(Kemp)



THE  
NEW-ENGLAND KEMPS



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THE  
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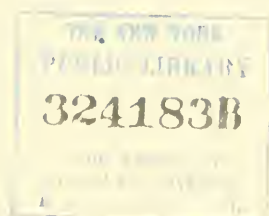
ANCESTRAL KINSMEN OF  
THE HON. WILLIAM KEMP  
OF TROY, N. Y.

BY  
ARTHUR JAMES WEISE, M.A.

TROY

1904

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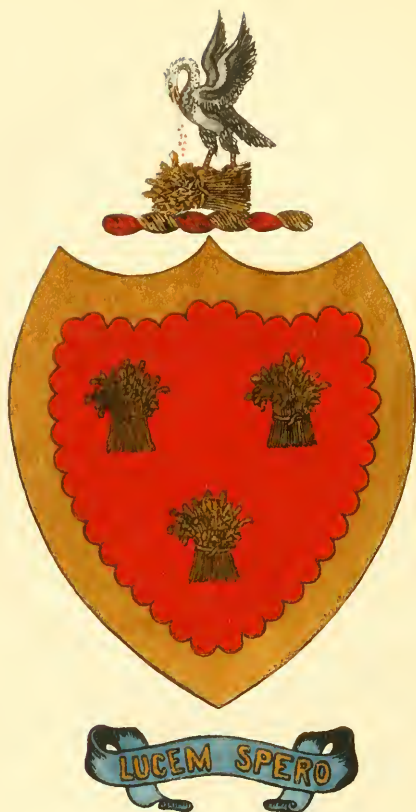
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Kemp





# I

## KEMP

IN Old English, the term *Kemp* designated a soldier engaged in single combat.

“The name Kemp is derived from the Saxon word to *Kemp* or combat, which in Norfolk [County, England] is retained to this day; a foot-ball match being called a camping or *Kemping*; and thus in Saxon a *Kemper* signifies a combatant, a champion, a man-at-arms. In some parts of Scotland, the striving of reapers in the harvest-field is still called *Kemping*.” *Vide*: An Etymological Dictionary of Family and Christian Names, by William Arthur, New York, 1857, p. 172.

# II

## THE ESSEX COUNTY (ENGLAND) KEMPS

IN Finchingfield parish, Hickford Hundred, Essex County, England, about a mile north of the parish church, is a manorial mansion known as Spain's Hall, which took its name from Hervey de Hispania (or Spain). The estate of which the site of the hall is a part came, as it is related, by marriage or otherwise, into the possession of the Kemp family.

John Kemp, living in the parish in the reign of Edward I (1272-1307), had by his wife, Alice Gunter, a son named Nicholas, who married Margaret, daughter of Richard de Hispania. "John Kemp, their son, married a daughter of — Reymond, son of John de Lincoln, and had with her a considerable estate, in this parish, called Remondys. John, their son, had also a son of the same name, who by his wife, whose maiden name was Amesbury, had Richard, living in 1371. His wife's name was Catharine, of whom no offspring is recorded; his second wife, Margaret, daughter of Robert Jekell, mercer of London, brought him in marriage, in 1406, the manors of Jekells and Justices. William Kemp, Esq., their son and heir, had by his wife, Alice Miles, a son Robert, who, dying in 1524, was buried in Kemp's Chapel, in this church; having had, by his wife Anne Apulderfield of Kent, seven sons and three daughters, none of whose names occur in records, except that of William, the eldest son. He married Mary, daughter of John Colt, and sister to Jane, wife of the celebrated chancellor, Sir Thomas More. The offspring of this marriage was Robert, Arthur, Henry, John, (which three last died without issue,) and George, seated at Cavendish in Suffolk; also Margery, married to George Cavendish of Glemsford, in Suffolk; Anne, wife of Thomas Wright, of Norwick; and Margaret, married to Thomas Downes, after whose decease she married a second husband, named Rushborough. The second wife of William Kemp, the father, was Mary, daughter of John Maxey, Esq., and widow of — Yardley; their marriage settlement bears the date of 1542.

“Robert Kemp, Esq., the eldest son, married Elizabeth, daughter of Clement Higham of Barrow Hill, in Suffolk, chief baron of the exchequer, and had by her William and Robert; Bridget, wife of Clement Paman, of Chevington, in Suffolk; and Dorothy married Ralph Lee of Sussex. William, the eldest son, was rendered remarkable by the voluntary punishment of himself, for some impropriety of speech which he considered highly criminal, and for which alleged offence he imposed a vow of silence during the term of seven years, to which he strictly submitted, with most extraordinary and undeviating perseverance. He died in 1628, having in 1558 married Philippi, daughter and co-heiress of Francis Gunter, of Aldbury, in Hertfordshire, and had by her his only daughter Joan, married to John Burgoyne, Esq., of Sutton, in Bedfordshire. His brother Robert, who was of Gessing, in Norfolk, married Frances Mingay, and had by her Robert, Edmund, Elizabeth, wife of — Outlaw, Isabel,” etc.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>The History and Topography of the County of Essex, England, by Thomas Wright, London, 1836, vol. i, pp. 651, 652, 653. *Vide*: The History and Antiquities of the County of Essex, England, by Philip Morant, London, 1768, vol. ii, pp. 362, 363, 364, 365; also The Visitations of Essex, Raven, 1612, by Walter C. Metcalfe, London, 1878, pp. 230, 231.

## III

## WILLIAM KEMP, THE ENGLISH COMEDIAN

"WILLIAM KEMP was a comic actor of high reputation. Like Tarlton,<sup>1</sup> whom he succeeded 'as wel in the fauour of her Majesty [Queen Elizabeth] as in the opinion and good thoughts of the generall audience,' he usually played the clown, and was greatly applauded for his buffoonery, his extemporal wit, and his performance of the jig" or grotesque dancing. Between the years 1589 and 1593 he belonged to a company under the management of the famous Edward Alleyn. A few years later, he and Thomas Pope, Richard Burbadge, John Hemings, Augustine Phillips, William Shakespeare, William Slye, and Nicholas Tooley formed the company called the Lord Chamberlain's Servants.

William Kemp's eminence and popularity as an actor are substantiated by many historical incidents. He and William Shakespeare and Richard Burbadge were more than once selected to entertain Queen Elizabeth and her court, and together received pecuniary rewards from her Majesty as tokens of her pleasure in witnessing plays in which they had the principal parts.<sup>2</sup> The plays

<sup>1</sup> Richard Tarlton died in September, 1588.

<sup>2</sup> The following entries appear in the manuscript accounts of the Treasurer of the Chamber: "'to William Kemp, William Shakespear, and Richard Burbage, servauntes to the Lord Chamberleyne, upon the Councelles warrant dated at Whitehall xv. to Marcij, 1594, for twoe severall comedies or interludes shewed by them before her Majestie in Christmas tyme laste paste, viz., upon St. Stephens daye and Innocentes

were presented in Greenwich Palace, on Saint Stephen's day and that of the Holy Innocents, in December, 1594. After the renovation and enlargement in 1596 of the theatre at the Blackfriars and the erection of the Globe in 1599, the company of the Lord Chamberlain's Servants played alternately at the first-mentioned place in winter and at the last in summer. "When *Romco and Juliet* and *Much Ado about Nothing* were originally brought upon the stage, Kemp acted Peter and Dogberry." "In the second quarto of the former play, 1599, and in the only quarto of the latter, 1600, 'Kemp' is prefixed to some speeches of Peter and Dogberry. He also played Launce in *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, Touchstone in *As you Like it*, the grave-digger in *Hamlet*, Justice Shallow in the second part of *Henry IV.*, and Launcelot in the *Merchant of Venice*. On the first production, in 1599, Ben Jonson's *Every Man in his Humour*, he personated a character in that play, and there is good reason to believe that in *Every Man out of his Humour*, by the same dramatist, he represented Carlo Buffone."

daye xiiij. li. vj. s. viij. d., and by waye of her Majesties rewarde vj. li. xiiij. s. iiij. d., in all xx. li.' The Court was then at Greenwich Palace. 'For making ready at Grenewich for the Qu. Majestie against her Highnes coming thether, by the space of viij. daies, *mense* Decembr. 1594, as appereth by a bill signed by the Lord Chamberleyne, viij. li. xiiij. s. iiij. d.' MS. *ibid.* 'To Tho. Sheffielde, under keaper of her Majesties house at Grenewich for the allowance of viij. labourers there three severall nightes, at xij. d. the man, by reason it was night woorke, for making cleane the great chamber, the Presence, the galleries and clossettes, *mense* Decembr., 1594, xxiiij. s., MS. *ibid.*' A rare view of Greenwich Palace, as it appeared in 1594, engraved by Basire from an ancient drawing, was published in 1767.

The most sensational of his many merriments, his "Nine daies wonder, performed in a morrice from London to Norwich," in 1599, is quaintly set forth in a small quarto work, "written by himselfe to satisfie his friends," which was published in London, in 1600, by Nicholas Ling, and sold at his place of business, "at the west doore of Saint Paules Church." The popular comedian dedicated his little book to "Mistris Anne Fitton, Mayde of Honour" to her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth. The only copy of the original work extant is in the Bodleian Library, at Oxford, England, and is said to be "a great curiosity, and, as a rude picture of national manners, extremely well worth reprinting." Two editions of "Kemps Nine Daies Wonder" were published in the nineteenth century; one with an introduction and notes by the Rev. Alexander Dyce, London, 1840, printed for the Camden Society, the other, edited from the original MS. by Edmund Goldsmith, F.R.H.S., privately printed, Edinburgh, 1884. Nothing is definitely known concerning the death of the distinguished actor, but it has been assumed that he died in 1603, during the plague of that year.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Outlines of the Life of Shakespeare, by J. O. Halliwell-Phillipps, F.R.S., London, 1888, seventh edition, vol. i, pp. 120, 121, vol. ii, p. 153. *Vide*: Kemps Nine Daies Wonder, with an introduction and notes by the Rev. Alexander Dyce, London, 1840, Camden Society publications; Kempes Nine Daies Wonder, edited from the original manuscript by Edmund Goldsmith, F.R.H.S., privately printed, Edinburgh, 1884.

IV

THE PLANTING OF PLYMOUTH COLONY

“WHEN, in 1603, James I. became king of England, he found his Protestant subjects divided into three classes,—Conformists or High Ritualists; Nonconformists, or Broad Church Puritans; and Separatists, popularly called Brownists. . . .

“The Separatists, unlike the Puritans, had no connection with the National Church, and the more rigid of them even denied that church to be scriptural, or its ministrations to be valid. They held that any convenient number of believers might form themselves into a church, and make or unmake their officers as they saw fit. Over the spiritual affairs of such a church there could be no legitimate authority short of its Heavenly Head,—no bishop director, superintendent, council, synod, court, or sovereign. Other churches of the same faith might not, unasked, even offer it advice, and they were not to be asked as churches, but as detached brethren. Even the pastors had no official standing outside of their own parishes; but when they spoke to other churches, they were invited to do so like any visiting lay brethren. In fundamental doctrines Ritualists, Puritans, and Separatists agreed; their differences were over matters of discipline. . . .

“Under Elizabeth, a London congregation of them [i. e., Separatists], was cruelly persecuted in 1567–69; but while men and women died of the horrors of their prisons, none recanted. . . .

“While Separatist men and women were freely thrown into such murderous imprisonment, but few of the Puritans were confined for their nonconformity; these few were mostly or entirely clergymen, whose prison life was made mild through the interest and wealth of their partisans, and was generally brief. . . . Bradford says that the Puritans had another great advantage over the Separatists: the latter had not only ‘harder measure’ from the same persecuting prelates, but encountered the hostility and ‘sharp invectives’ of the Puritan preachers themselves (‘the forward ministers’) who not only stirred up against them the people at home, but so prejudiced the Reformed clergy of other countries that while Puritan refugees found a cordial reception there, the Separatists met with no favor. Thus the ejected Puritan clergy were mostly well cared for at home; but the unfriended Separatists, deprived of a livelihood, were compelled to fly to other and uncongenial lands, or ‘else might have perished in prison.’ . . .

“Through the united pressure of prelates, Puritans, and placemen, the Separatists were dispersed. Many sought the protection of obscurity, but most contrived to conform far enough to escape special notice. The sect rapidly diminished, and at the accession of James I. there is supposed to have been in the whole kingdom but one of their churches in operation. That was some hundred and fifty miles from the capital, at Gainsborough, and was in charge of a pastor of ‘right eminent parts,’ who bore the neither marked nor unEnglish name of John Smith. Some twelve miles to the west, around the hamlet of Scrooby, this body had a few scat-

tered friends who remained there when in 1605-1606 the Gainsborough flock fled to Amsterdam."

The Separatists living in the vicinity of Scrooby, in the Hundred of Basset Lawe, in the county of Nottinghamshire, included in their number William Brewster, later known as Elder Brewster, and William Bradford, who became the second governor of Plymouth Colony. The congregation had for its pastor, Richard Clifton. With him John Robinson, as junior pastor, was associated, "who had been a clergyman in the Established Church near Norwich, being deprived for non-ritualism." The meetings of the congregation did not long escape the attention of the informers, and as a consequence the religious services of the Separatists were thereafter secretly conducted. Finally, in the autumn of 1607, the congregation determined to flee to Holland.

"There were many other 'notable passages and troubles' which winnowed out the less courageous and steadfast of the fugitives, but drew in others. In various ways the constant ones were sent over to Amsterdam, the rear of the column being guarded by the brave patriarchs of the flock,—Clifton, Robinson, and Brewster. A stay in England was especially dangerous for this Horatian three; but they held their ground until there were no more to be helped across, and then they followed.

"In August, 1608, like the Children of Israel on the Arabian shore, this reunited band of pilgrims stood by the banks of the Zuyder Zee and poured out songs of praise for their deliverance. But sadness mingled in their joy. For England they had an abiding love; her language and usages, her traditions and history, her

hills and meadows, the homes of their youth and the graves of their dead, were interwoven with their thoughts and affections. The religious freedom of Holland they could only enjoy as foreigners; and though their motherland had been to them merciless beyond endurance, their hearts would continue untraveled until they could beat in a *new* England more truly English than England herself. . . .

"At Amsterdam were two Separatist congregations. The chief was that banished from London in 1593, after the execution of Greenwood, its sub-pastor or teacher. It still had its former learned pastor, Johnson, while the martyr's place was filled by Ainsworth, one of the first Hebrew scholars of his day. . . . The other body was that already noticed as escaping from Gainsborough, and leaving behind those ex-members around Scrooby."

The newcomers determined to leave Amsterdam. "About May, 1609, some nine months after their arrival, they removed to Leyden, a city of 'sweete situation' on the Old Rhine, about twenty-two miles southwest of Amsterdam. Brave Clifton, who then ranked as 'a reverend old man,' though but fifty-six years old, had worn out before his time, and now retired from service, himself and family remaining with Johnson's people at Amsterdam. The Scrooby band at this second hegira numbered about one hundred persons. . . . On reaching Leyden, Brewster had been made ruling elder, and three deacons had been ordained."

The sojourn of the Scrooby Separatists in Leyden continued in an unbroken body until 1620, when certain English merchants, titled "Adventurers," stipulated to

convey to America, near the northern limits of the Virginia Company's patent, such of them as might be selected to go there as colonists. Sailing from Delft-haven, Holland, in a pinnace named the *Speedwell*, the little body of emigrants arrived at Southampton, England, where the ship *Mayflower* was at anchor awaiting their coming. Twice the two vessels essayed to make the voyage, and twice returned to English ports in consequence of the assumed unseaworthiness of the *Speedwell*. Finally, on September 16, the *Mayflower*, with one hundred and two passengers aboard, put to sea alone from the harbor of Plymouth.

On November 20 (*new style*) land was sighted off Cape Cod, after a voyage of sixty-seven days. Finding themselves obliged to abandon the intention of settling within the Virginia Company's territory, the colonists began to question where they should seek a suitable place for a settlement.

"The Virginia Company had no rights in New England, and of course their patent could confer none; neither did any other body exercise authority there. The King made a general claim to the whole territory, but had delegated no power to the Pilgrims, not even authorizing them to enter the country. It was therefore asserted that as soon as they had left the ship every one would be his own master, and that all government would be at an end. It was true that, landing beyond the limits of the Virginia Company, the Pilgrims would lose such rights as they might claim to derive from their patent, and would be outside of all established authority. They indeed recognized James I. as their

sovereign, but he ignored them. The moment they landed north of 41° north latitude, they would become waifs and estrays, save that they would still be a voluntary church. The leaders were equal to the emergency. If England had no government for them, they would make one for themselves. . . .

“The adult males of the company were summoned to the *Mayflower's* cabin, the necessities of the case explained, and the following document was drawn up and signed by the men of the company (those in italics had the title of ‘Master,’ or ‘Mr.’):—

“‘In ye name of God, Amen! We whose names are underwritten, the loyall subjects of our dread soveraigne Lord, King James, by ye grace of God, of Great Britaine, Franc, & Ireland king, defender of ye faith, &c., haveing undertaken, for ye glorie of God and advancemente of ye Christian faith, and honour of our king and countrie, a voyage to plant ye first colonie in ye Northerne parts of Virginia, doe by these presents solemnly and mutually in ye presence of God, and one of another, covenant and combine our selves together into a civill body politick, for our better ordering and preservation and furtherance of ye ends aforesaid; and *by vertue hearof* to enacte, constitute, and frame such just and equall lawes, ordinances, acts, constitutions, and offices, from time to time, as shall be thought most meete and convenient for ye generall good of ye Colonie, unto which we promise all due submission and obedience.

“‘In witnes wherof we have hereunder subscribed our names at Cap-Codd ye 11. of November, in ye year of ye raigne of our soveraigne lord, King James, of

England, France, & Ireland ye eighteenth, and of Scotland ye fiftie-fourth. An<sup>o</sup> Dom. 1620.

<i>John Carver,</i>	Edward Tilley,	Degory Priest,
<i>William Bradford,</i>	John Tilley,	Thomas Williams,
<i>Edward Winslow,</i>	Francis Cook,	Gilbert Winslow,
<i>William Brewster,</i>	Thomas Rogers,	Edmund Margeson,
<i>Isaac Allerton,</i>	Thomas Tinker,	Peter Brown,
<i>Myles Standish,</i>	John Rigdale,	Richard Britteridge,
John Alden,	Edward Fuller,	George Soule,
<i>Samuel Fuller,</i>	John Turner,	Richard Clarke,
<i>Christopher Martin,</i>	Francis Eaton,	Richard Gardiner,
<i>William Mullens,</i>	James Chilton,	John Allerton,
<i>William White,</i>	John Crackston,	Thomas English,
<i>Richard Warren,</i>	John Billington,	Edward Dotey,
John Howland,	Moses Fletcher,	Edward Lister,
<i>Stephen Hopkins,</i>	John Goodman.'	

"Thus in a few minutes was this little unorganized group of adventurers converted into a commonwealth. The first act of the citizens of the new-made state was to confirm John Carver as governor till their next New Year's Day, (March 25th). . . .

"Of this compact John Quincy Adams remarked in 1802 :

" 'This is perhaps the only instance in human history of that positive, original social compact which speculative philosophers have imagined as the only legitimate source of government. Here was a unanimous and personal assent by all the individuals of the community to the association, *by which they became a nation*. . . . The settlers of all the former European colonies had contented themselves with the powers conferred upon them by their respective charters, without looking beyond the

seal of the royal parchment for the measure of their rights and the rule of their duties.'

"While this important matter was in progress, the '*Mayflower*' had doubled the Cape, and headed for a time toward the east along Long Point, finally loffing to an anchorage a furlong within this Point and about a mile from the site of Provincetown. . . .

"The first morning which greeted the Pilgrims in their port of refuge was that of Sunday, November 22. With heartfelt thankfulness for preservation from the dangers of the sea, they held their worship and sang 'the Lord's song in a strange land.' On Monday morning worldly cares returned. . . .

"The Pilgrims at once prepared to explore the coast in their own shallop,—a sloop-rigged craft of twelve or fifteen tons, which they had brought between decks, having been obliged to take her partly to pieces for stowage. It was supposed that their carpenters would trim her up in six days; but parts had been so strained during the voyage that seventeen days were required."

After sailing to different points on the mainland, and examining the physical features of the places explored by them, certain of the principal men, on Monday, December 21 (*new style*) or December 11 (*old style*), landed at Plymouth, and "marched into the land and found divers cornfields and little running brooks,—a place (as they supposed) fit for settlement; at least it was the best they could find." The place was known to them as Plymouth, having been so named five years earlier by Captain John Smith of the Virginia Colony. Nine days later, it having been voted to settle there,

“some twenty of the more enthusiastic, that very afternoon, built a barricade and determined to begin sleeping on shore.”

“The first building erected was one twenty feet square, for common use until all were privately housed, and for meetings afterwards. Its walls (begun January 4th), probably of rudely squared logs, were by January 19th ready for the roof. Some were set to making mortar and ‘pointing-up’ the crevices, while others gathered and laid the thatch of swamp grass, of which, after the English fashion, all their roofs were constructed. The Forefathers are often pitied because they had no better shelter than these thatched roofs; but at that very time many thousands of the urban houses of England were so covered: they abounded in such thriving towns as York, Worcester, Gloucester, Shrewsbury, and Nottingham, often forming whole streets.”

In October, 1627, Isaak De Rasières, secretary of the West India Company, from New Amsterdam, New Netherlands, visited Plymouth, and thus described the place:

“New Plymouth lies on the slope of a hill, stretching east toward the sea-coast, with a broad street about a cannon-shot of eight hundred feet long leading down the hill, with a crossing [street] in the middle. . . . The houses are constructed of hewn planks, with gardens also enclosed behind and at the sides with hewn planks, so that their houses and courtyards are arranged in very good order, with a stockade against a sudden attack; and at the ends of the streets there are three wooden gates. In the centre, on the cross street, stands the

governor's house, before which is a square enclosure upon which four patereros (*steen-stucken*) [little cannon] are mounted, so as to flank along the streets.

"Upon the hill they have a large square house with a flat roof, made of thick sawn planks stayed with oak beams, upon the top of which they have six cannon, which shoot iron balls of four and five pounds and command the surrounding country. The lower part they use for their church, where they preach on Sundays and the usual holidays. They assemble by beat of drum, each with his musket or firelock, in front of the captain's door; they have their cloaks on, and place themselves in order, three abreast, and are led by a sergeant without beat of drum. Behind comes the Governor in a long robe; beside him, on the right hand, comes the preacher with his cloak on, and on the left hand the captain with his side-arms and cloak on, and with a small cane in his hand; and so they march in good order, and each sets his arms down near him. Thus they are constantly on their guard, night and day.

"Their government is after the English form. The Governor has his council, which is chosen every year by the entire community by election or prolongation of term."<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The Pilgrim Republic (an historical review of the colony of New Plymouth), by John A. Goodwin, Boston, 1888, pp. 7, 11, 12, 16, 18, 19, 23, 25, 26, 29, 30, 31, 32, 34, 44, 46, 50, 51, 57, 59, 62, 63, 64, 65, 68, 91, 92, 100, 101, 102, 109, 303, 305, 306, 308, 309.

## V

## "MR. WILLIAM KEMP" OF DUXBURY

DUXBURY, in Plymouth County, Massachusetts, thirty-eight miles southeast of Boston, and eight from Plymouth, by the way of the Old Colony Railroad, became the seat of the homes of a number of the first settlers of Plymouth about the year 1630. The privilege of founding a new settlement there was evidently gained with some difficulty; for the change of residence of such valued and influential men as Captain Myles Standish, Jonathan Brewster, John Alden, Thomas Prence, and later of Francis Eaton, George Soule, and Moses Simonson, was in many ways detrimental to the growth of Plymouth. The stipulation that the four first-named should remain at Duxbury in the winter is set forth in the following record:

"An<sup>o</sup>. 1632, Aprell 2. The names of those which promise to remove their fam[ilies] to live in the towne in the winter time, that they m[ay] the better repair to the worship of God. John Alden, Captain Standish, Jonathan Brewster, Thomas Prence."

Duxbury, it is said, was given the name "out of respect to Captain Standish," whose ancestors had a family seat known as Duxbury Hall, near the village of Chorley, in Lancashire, England, where he was born.

The cause of the exodus of these and other prosperous settlers to Duxbury and elsewhere in the two adjacent colonies is furnished by this record, under the date of 1632:

"This year the people of [Plymouth] begin to grow in their outward estates, by the flowing of many People into the country, especially into the M. C. [Massachusetts Colony]. By which means Cattle and Corn rise to great price, Goods grow plentiful, and many are enriched. And now their Stock increasing, the Increase vendible; there is no longer holding them together. They must go to their great Lots: they can no otherwise keep their cattle; and having Oxen grown, they must have more land for Plowing and Tillage. By this means they scatter round the Bay [of Plymouth] quickly, and the Town wherein they lived till now compactly, is soon left very thin, and in a short time almost desolate. The Church also comes to be divided, and those who have lived so long together in Christian and Comfortable Fellowship must now part."

"In 1636, in an effort to reunite the people, a joint-committee of nine advised that Plymouth and Duxbury villages be consolidated at Jones River (Kingston), and that a stone church be built there in token of stability. . . . The project was argued before a meeting of the citizens, who then referred it with power to the two churches, where it finally died. Owing to this suspense, Duxbury was not incorporated, nor a pastor elected until 1637. It seems at the first to have been under the able lay-ministration of Elder Brewster, who soon established a home in Duxbury; but now the church settled Ralph Partridge, a learned Cambridge scholar whom Laud had ejected from his English pulpit and 'hunted like a partridge over the mountains.' During the delay

Scituate had been incorporated (1636); therefore Duxbury dated as the third town in the Colony [of Plymouth]. It became prosperous, and attracted a fine class of inhabitants through its superior fertility to Plymouth." <sup>1</sup>

The first persons surnamed Kemp to settle within the territorial bounds of that part of North America geographically styled New England were William Kemp, his wife Elizabeth, and their son William. They were conveyed there by the ship *James* of London, of which William Cooper was master, having taken passage in that vessel about the 5th of April, 1635, at the town of Hampton, a parish in Middlesex County, England, on the north bank of the Thames River, twelve miles westward of London,—the ship having later cleared from Southampton.

It would seem that the husband and wife, whose names do not appear on the preserved list of passengers, had entered themselves on it under fictitious appellations, and that their son had registered himself with the title of *servant*. On board the ship was also Anthony Thacher of Sarum, in Wiltshire, designated a *tayler*, who, with his family and his nephew Thomas Thacher, intended to make a new home in America. A fear of detention or other misfortune evidently influenced these persecuted Separatists to avail themselves of such opportune means as temporarily furthered their personal in-

<sup>1</sup> History of the Town of Duxbury, Mass., by Justin Winsor, Boston, 1849, pp. 9, 10, 13. The Pilgrim Republic, by John A. Goodwin, pp. 452, 453, footnotes; 361, 362; 191, 192, footnotes.

terests at a time when it was not an easy undertaking for any of their sect to quit England unhindered and without distress.

The *James* arrived at Boston on the fourth day of June. Not a few of the passengers made their way immediately to Plymouth, where also went William Kemp, his wife and son, and were heartily welcomed there by many of the settlers whom they had known in England. The novel features of their surroundings and the energetic toil of the colonists afforded them no little pleasure and surprise, and it was not long before they were as much concerned to promote advantageously their personal welfare as others of the growing community.

Until 1636 the management of the affairs of the colony had been intrusted entirely to the governor and his council. That year Elder William Brewster, the Rev. Ralph Smith, Deacon John Doane, Deacon John Denny of Plymouth, Jonathan Brewster and Christopher Wadsworth of Duxbury, James Cudworth and Anthony Annable of Scituate, were delegated to join the governor and his councillors in the preparation of such laws as might better advance the welfare of the colonists. Prior to that time there had been no law establishing the offices of governor, councillors, and constables. These officers had been annually elected by the General Court, and had administered the government subject to the action of the people as a body politic. "The governor and councillors (assistants) were called 'the bench,' and the town members 'committees' at first, and then 'deputies.' The two branches sat as one body, with the governor presiding; and so continued to do till the end of the col-

ony. This body might pass laws, but, except in a crisis, final action must be postponed till the next session. Decisions in the General Court were by a majority vote, with no division between the bench and the deputies. Yet the freemen still met annually in one assembly as a 'court of election,' and chose the governor, assistants, treasurer, and (after 1643) colonial commissioners."

The first action taken, as recorded, to benefit "Mr. William Kemp" as an estate-owner, was at a Court of Assistants held in Plymouth, on January 7, 1639, when he was granted "a portion of land, a mile or two from the head of the South River" having its source in Little Island Creek Pond, in the town of Duxbury, whence it flowed northerly through Cranberry Pond, and thence northeasterly into Massachusetts Bay. Edward Winslow, John Alden, John Brown, Jonathan Brewster, and William Bassett were appointed a committee to view the situation of the tract and report the nature of the land, when the court would decide "the number of acres" to be assigned him. The site of the tract was known to the Indians by the name of Namassacuset. Titled "Mr.," as William Kemp is in the records of the court, he may be regarded as being well born and a man of marked ability, inasmuch as the term was bestowed only upon men of good extraction and distinction by the first settlers.

On the minutes of the General Court, held at Plymouth on March 5 that year, the name of "Mr. William Kemp" appears among "the names of such as are proposed to take up their freedom the next court." This purpose was accomplished on December 3, at a Court of

Assistants sitting that day, which admitted the following persons as freemen into the colony: "Mr. Joseph Hull, Mr. Thomas Dimmack, William Casely, Robert Linnett, John Williams, John Twisden, Thomas Chambers, John Hewis, Mr. Anthony Thatcher, and Mr. William Kemp."

The same day, as is recorded, "Mr. William Kemp" was sworn as a member of the "Grand Inquest."

On April 6, 1640, the Court of Assistants ordered that "a portion of land" should be laid out for "Mr. William Kemp" between the lands of Mr. Comfort Starr and those granted to William Bassett, "with a portion of meadow land," which Mr. William Collier, Jonathan Brewster, and William Bassett were to view.

It is elsewhere recorded that John Howland sold to William Kemp of Duxbury, on June 2, 1640, for £140, "all that his messuage and outhouses situate in Duxbury aforesaid and four score acres of upland and five acres of meadow."

As entered in the minutes of the Court of Assistants, held on the last day of August, 1640, it was ordered that "Mr. William Kemp" should be granted "four score acres of upland at Namassacuset, with some convenient meadow," which might be added to it at the discretion of Mr. William Collier, Captain Myles Standish, Jonathan Brewster, William Bassett, and Joshua Pratt, who were appointed by the court to view and lay out the same.

The prosperous colonist probably did not live long enough to come into possession of this last grant of land, for the next recorded action relating to him taken by the court was that of granting to Mrs. Elizabeth Kemp, on November 2, 1640, letters of administration permitting

her "to administer upon all the goods, chattels, and debts which William Kemp, her late husband, died possessed of, or were due and appertaining unto him at the time of his decease," provided that she should "exhibit upon oath a true inventory thereof with all convenient speed," or when she should "be thereunto required by the court."

On September 23, 1641, an inventory of the property was made by William Collier, Jonathan Brewster, Christopher Wadsworth, and Dr. Comfort Starr, who found the value of it to be £172 9s. 5d. This inventory the widow exhibited to the court on April 5, 1642.

The widow, Elizabeth Kemp, their son William, and a daughter Patience were the surviving members of the household. This declaration is evidently substantiated by the following information:

Thomas Thacher, born in England on May 1, 1620 (a son of the Rev. Peter Thacher, who was pastor of the parish Church of St. Edmunds, in the city of New Sarum, (Salisbury), in Wiltshire, between the years 1622 and 1640), had, in 1635, as has been related, accompanied his uncle, Anthony Thacher, to America, in the ship *James* of London. He became pastor of the church at Weymouth, where he was ordained on January 2, 1645. He was known later as one of the most eminent scholars of his day, and, according to President Stiles of Yale College, the best Arabic scholar in the country, besides being a faithful pastor and an interesting preacher. He became a skilful physician, and the author of a medical work entitled "A Guide in the Small-Pox and Measles." He first married, on May 11, 1643, Elizabeth, the

youngest daughter of the Rev. Ralph Partridge, the first pastor of the church at Duxbury. She died in Weymouth on June 2, 1664, having been the mother of three sons and two daughters, the elder of which was given the name of Patience, that of her grandmother, the wife of the Rev. Ralph Partridge, who to this granddaughter bequeathed in his will, signed on September 29, 1655, and exhibited for probate on May 4, 1658, "a lot of ten acres."

It is related that Patience Thacher became the wife of William, the son of "Mr. William Kemp" of Duxbury. No date of their marriage seems to be extant. However, a number of incidents give good grounds for the conjecture that they were married about the year 1660, and that they shortly afterward became settlers at Cocheco (Dover), New Hampshire, where, "on Dover Neck," in 1664, a "William Kempe" was named as being a tax-payer. Whether they were blessed with children nothing is known by any of the well-informed genealogists.

Regarding Patience, the daughter of William and Elizabeth Kemp, a few facts are preserved worthy of mention. She married in Weymouth, in the extreme northeast part of Plymouth Colony, on November 9, 1660, Samuel, son of John and Grace Seabury of Boston, born there on December 10, 1640. After their marriage they made Duxbury their place of residence, where Patience died on October 29, 1676, having become the mother of two sons and five daughters. Samuel Seabury, who was a physician, married again, on April 4, 1677, Martha, daughter of William and Elizabeth Pabodie of

Duxbury, born there on February 24, 1650. Her mother was the daughter of John and Priscilla Mullins Alden, born in Plymouth in 1625. Samuel Seabury, whose surname was also spelled Sebury, Saberry, Saberrey, and Sabery, died in Duxbury on August 5, 1681.

Two years before the death of his wife, Patience Kemp, or, more accurately, on July 7, 1674, he was granted, by the General Court, "liberty to look out for lands to accommodate him in reference to several former grants made by the court unto Mr. William Kemp, deceased, which the said Mr. Kemp never had, nor any for him, and was disappointed of some parcels of land assigned him; and thereby he having an interest therein, as appears by the records of the court, if, therefore the said Mr. Saberry, his son-in-law, can find any lands as yet undisposed of, he is to have a competent accommodation of lands out of the same."

This concession, it would seem, put him in possession of the lands which he owned at Island Creek, and, perhaps, on the North River, at the Gurnet, and at the Brick-kilns, having probably been assigned him as an heir to the property of Mr. William Kemp.

Mr. Ralph Thacher, brother of Patience Thacher, wife of William Kemp, then probably deceased, made on July 7, 1682, a similar application to the General Court, praying that body to take into consideration "a grant of land made unto Mr. William Kemp, lying within the town of Duxbury, about Namassakesett, with meadow convenient to be laid forth unto the same, which meadow was never yet laid out according to court order, neither what

was done about the laying of it out to be found upon the record nor in any other writing." In answer to the petition, the court that day ordered Ensign John Tracy, John Soule, and William Paybody to repair to the said places and lay out the said lands in the same proportion as they were first ordered to be laid out.

Through John, the son of Samuel and Martha Pabodie, who married, December 9, 1697, Elizabeth Alden, the Right Rev. Samuel Seabury, the first bishop of the Episcopal Church in America, traced his descent. (See Seabury genealogy in the Appendix.)

The English ancestry of "Mr. William Kemp" of Duxbury, it would seem, could definitely be determined from information to be found in some of the church records in Essex County, England, probably in those of the parish church of Finchingfield, if extant.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Result of Some Researches among the British Archives for Information Relative to the Founders of New England, Made in the Years 1858, 1859, and 1860, by Samuel G. Drake, third edition, Boston, 1865, pp. 55-57. Records of the Colony of Plymouth in New England, edited by Nathaniel B. Shurtleff, M.D., Boston, 1855, vol. i, pp. 109, 116, 117, 137, 144, 155, 161; vol. ii, pp. 27, 37; vol. v, pp. 150, 151; vol. vi, pp. 92, 93; vol. vii, pp. 175, 182. History of the Town of Duxbury, Massachusetts, by Justice Winsor, Boston, 1849, pp. 10, 14, 273, 305, 306. Genealogy and Biographical Sketches of the Descendants of Thomas and Anthony Thacher, Vineland, New Jersey, 1872, pp. 6, 7, 8, 9. New England Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. iv, p. 249; vol. vii, p. 158; vol. v, p. 385. Copy of Old Records of the Town of Duxbury, Massachusetts, Plymouth, 1893, pp. 10, 52. The Pilgrim Republic. An Historical Review of the Colony of New Plymouth, by John A. Goodwin, Boston, 1888, pp. 401, 402, 403, 404.

## VI

EDWARD KEMP OF DEDHAM, WENHAM, AND  
CHELMSFORD

THE village of Dedham, in Norfolk County, Massachusetts, lies about ten miles southwest of the city of Boston. Its site was originally a part of the territory of Massachusetts Bay Colony acquired in 1628 by a patent granted to an association of Englishmen titled the Massachusetts Bay Company. It is said that many members of the company "were men of wealth and education; some had titles, and several had influential connections. It was expected that the corporation and its officers would continue in England; and with this idea, in 1628, it sent over to Naumkeag (Salem) John Endicott as a sort of deputy-governor, with a body of working-men. Endicott found already on his territory some eight settlements, ranging from single households to the village at Naumkeag . . . . In Salem the Episcopal form of worship had been the only one known from the beginning in 1625-6; and Endicott and his fellows, as Puritans, not only adhered to it, but no one who saw them depart from England supposed that they would ever do otherwise." In 1629 "three Episcopal clergymen were sent over to Massachusetts Bay by the corporation in England." It is further related that one of them, when England began to fade from their view, stood at the stern of the ship *Talbot* on which they were passengers, and exclaimed:

“We will not say as the Separatists were wont to say at their leaving of England, ‘Farewell, Babylon! Farewell, Rome!’ But we will say, ‘Farewell, dear England! Farewell, the Church of God in England, and all the Christian friends there!’ We do not go to New England as Separatists from the Church of England.”

The Rev. Ralph Smith, with his family, was also a passenger on board the same vessel. Although it was suspected that he was a Separatist, he was allowed to stay, as his goods were on board the ship and no time could be spared to discharge them on the eve of the sailing of the *Talbot*. The governor in England of the Massachusetts Bay Company, however, “sent Endicott an order concerning Smith, that ‘unless he will be conformable to our government, you suffer him not to remain within the limits of our grant.’”

Finding himself not wanted in Massachusetts Bay Colony, the Rev. Ralph Smith went with his family and servants to Plymouth, and was made pastor of the church of that settlement in 1629, he being the first minister to take charge of the congregation. Although a university scholar, it is said he was a far inferior preacher to Elder Brewster; but being “a minister of Episcopal ordination, and, unlike Brewster,” he “could administer the sacraments, which had not before been enjoyed at Plymouth.”<sup>1</sup>

The beginning of the history of Dedham is set forth in the town records with the following particulars: The General Court of Massachusetts Bay Colony having on

<sup>1</sup>The Pilgrim Republic. An Historical Review of the Colony of New Plymouth, by John A. Goodwin, Boston, 1888, pp. 324, 325, 326, 329.

September 3, 1635, ordered that a plantation should be settled about two miles above Charles River, preparations were forthwith begun to accomplish the project. An association of the persons about to settle there held a meeting on September 5, in the minutes of which it is entered that "all y<sup>e</sup> names of them which are admitted into our Society are subscribed" to a petition to the court for an additional grant of land, with a prayer that the town might be distinguished by the name of Contentment.

On the 10th of September the General Court granted the petitioners the enjoyment of "all that land on the easterly and southerly side of Charles River, not formerly granted unto any town or particular person, and permitting them to have five miles square on the other side of the river." To these grants forming the town the court gave the name of Dedham.

Prefacing the first book of the records of the church, established at Dedham in 1638 by its first pastor, the Rev. John Allin, is this information:

"The township of Dedham, consisting of about thirty families residing there in 1637, being come together by divine providence from several parts of England, few of them known to one another before, it was thought meet and agreed upon that all the inhabitants that affected church communion, or pleased to come, should meet every fifth day of the week at several houses in order lovingly to discourse and consult together [on] such questions as might further tend to stablish a peaceable and comfortable civil society, and prepare for spiritual communion in a church society, . . . that we might be further acquainted with the (spiritual) tempers and

gifts of one another, and partly that we might gain further light in the ways of Christ's Kingdom and government of his church, which we thought might conduce to this end. . . .

"The Lord thus far clearing up our way before us, we agreed upon the eighth day of the ninth month [November], 1638, to make our public profession, and enter into solemn covenant with the Lord, and one another."

On April 24, 1639, the Rev. John Allin as pastor and John Hunting as ruling elder were ordained to serve the Dedham congregation.

The meeting-house built, in 1637, of logs, twenty by thirty-six feet, was covered with thatched grass. "The pitts [so the pews are called in the records] were five feet deep, and four and a half feet wide. The elders seat, and the deacons seat, were before the pulpit; the communion table stood before these seats, and was so placed that the communicants could approach it in all directions."

The adult male inhabitants of Dedham subscribed their names to the following "Covenant":

"1. We whose names are hereunto subscribed, do, in the fear and reverence of our Almighty God, mutually and severally promise amongst ourselves and each other to profess and practice one truth according to that most perfect rule, the foundation whereof is Everlasting Love.

"2. That we shall by all means labor to keep off from us all such as are contrary minded, and receive only such unto us as be such as may be probably of one heart with us as that we either know or may well and truly be informed to walk in a peaceable conversation,

with all meekness of spirit for the edification of each other in the knowledge and faith of the Lord Jesus; and the mutual encouragement unto all temporal comforts in all things; seeking the good of each other, out of all which may be derived true peace.

“3. That if at any time difference shall arise between parties [in] our said town, that then such party and parties shall presently refer all such difference unto some one, two, or three others of our said society, to be fully accorded and determined, without any further delay, if it possibly may be.

“4. That every man now, or at any time hereafter, [that] shall have lots in our said town, shall pay his share in all such rates of money and charges as shall be imposed upon him rateably in proportion with other men, as also become freely subject unto all such orders and constitutions as shall be necessarily had or made now or at any time hereafter from this day forward, as well for loving and comfortable society in our said town as also for the prosperous and thriving condition of our said fellowship, especially respecting the fear of God, in which we desire to begin and continue whatsoever we shall, by his loving favor, take in hand.

“5. And for the better manifestation of our true resolution herein, every man so received, to subscribe hereunto his name, thereby obliging both himself and his successors after him forever as we have done.”

“The first settlers agreed that each married man should have a house lot of twelve acres; part upland and part meadow. In locating the lots by such a rule, they must necessarily have been near one another, on

the margin of the meadow near the modern village. There were then very few carpenters, joiners or masons in the colony. There was no saw-mill in the settlement for many years. The only boards, which could be procured at first, were those which were sawed by hand. These houses therefore must have been principally constructed by farmers, not by mechanics, and have been very rude and inconvenient. Their roofs were covered with thatch."<sup>1</sup>

In 1642 there were forty-seven proprietors of land in the town.

The earliest definite information relating to Edward Kemp of England being in America, after his arrival with his wife Ann and daughter Esther, is that of his taking the oath, on March 13, 1638, probably at Boston, to become a freeman of the Colony of Massachusetts Bay. Whether he was a near or a distant kinsman of "Mr. William Kemp" of Duxbury, there seems to be no particulars in any of the records of New England to confirm the one or the other of these apparent alternatives.

The tenor of the oath which was administered to justify his right to be a freeman of Massachusetts Bay Colony is disclosed by its wording: "I, Edward Kemp, being, by the Almighty's most wise disposition, become a member of this body, consisting of the Governor, Deputy Governor, Assistants, and a commonalty of the Massachusetts in New England, do freely and sincerely acknowledge that I am justly and lawfully subject to the

<sup>1</sup> Records of the Town of Dedham, vol. iii, pp. 1, 2, 3, 20. Church Records of the Town of Dedham, pp. 1, 9. The History of Dedham, by Erastus Worthington, Boston, 1827, pp. 13, 17, 32, 33, 35, 102.

government of the same, and do accordingly submit my person and estate to be protected, ordered, and governed by the laws and constitutions thereof, and do faithfully promise to be from time to time obedient and conformable thereunto, and to the authority of the said Governor and Assistants, and their successors, and to all such laws, orders, sentences, and decrees as shall be lawfully made and published by them or their successors; and I will always endeavor (as in duty bound) to advance the peace and welfare of this body or commonwealth to my utmost skill and ability; and I will, to my best power and means, seek to divert and prevent whatsoever may tend to the ruin or damage thereof, or of any the said Governors, Deputy Governors, or Assistants, or any of them or their successors, and will give speedy notice to them or to some of them, of any sedition, violence, treachery, or other hurt or evil which I shall know, hear, or vehemently suspect to be plotted or intended against the said commonwealth, or the said government established; and I will not at any time suffer or give consent to any counsel or attempt that shall be given or attempted for the impeachment of the said government, or making any change or alteration of the same contrary to the laws and ordinances thereof, but shall do my utmost to discover, oppose, and hinder all and every such counsel and attempt. So help me God."

This oath was doubtless administered at Boston, where, it is likely, he arrived at the beginning of the spring of 1638. His going to Dedham was evidently on account of his following the calling of a blacksmith, for in the different settlements in the two adjoining colonies at that

time there was great need of mechanics, such as carpenters and blacksmiths, for whose services there was an urgent and increasing demand. Through the knowledge of some interested person, Edward Kemp was communicated with in Boston and overtures were made to him to take up his abode in Dedham. To secure his acceptance of the proposals extended him, a meeting was called of the freemen of Dedham on July 13, 1638, of which there is extant the following record: "The 13th of ye [5th] month. Most of our Towne assembled in ye Morneing to take order about a Blacke Smith to be enterteyned. It was agreed by diurse men to lay downe certeyne moneyes to buy coles to further ye same, amounting unto 3£: 11: 8. as by ye particulars in a note hereunto annexed; the same money to be wrought out by ye Smith for ye sayd severall men when he shal be thereunto Required."

It will be seen that further action in the matter was taken seven weeks later, or on "the 28: of ye 6: month commonly called August," of which the following is the minute: "That which was agreed upon ye last meeting was Read & Confirmed. It was agreed y<sup>t</sup> [*i. e.*, that] Edw: Kempe, Blacksmith, shal be enterteyned unto the Smiths lott, to have ye one halfe of ye same as it was formerly layd out together also with one halfe of all ye dependences thereunto belonging, & certificate produced."

Having been informed of this fulfilment of the stipulations embraced in the provisions of the agreement, Edward Kemp proceeded to Dedham, where, on "the 27th of ye 7th month," or September 27, 1638, he was

present at a meeting held that day, and took part in the consideration of such affairs of the town as then engaged the attention of those attending it.

On January 2, 1642, he and John Eaton and Daniel Fisher were chosen surveyors of highways for that year. He soon acquired considerable property in Dedham. In the valuation of houses for the rating of the local taxes, some of the largest and best built being estimated as worth £45 and the smallest as low as £2, his dwelling was appraised at £15 5 s. While living in Dedham, more than twenty acres of land were apportioned to him. As shown on a map of the village in more recent years, his house-lot lay not far northwest of the meeting-house, and mostly north of the line of Harvard Street, near its intersection with High and East streets.

Samuel Foster, who married Kemp's daughter Esther, in Dedham, on November 15, 1648, was rated as a taxpayer in the town in September of that year. Esther Kemp, who was born in 1619, probably in England, was at the time of her marriage twenty-nine years old.

Whether the father of Edward Kemp or any brother accompanied him to America is unknown, but there was a Robert Kemp, locally known to be "a plain-hearted Christian," who was received into membership with the church in Dedham in 1639. Probably the wife of Edward Kemp (her Christian name not being entered on the register), as one might be led to infer from the entry, "ye wife [of] our brother Kempe," was "received comfortably into y<sup>e</sup> church y<sup>e</sup> 11th of the 8 month," or October 11, 1639. Edward Kemp's daughter Esther became a member of it on March 6, 1646.

A noteworthy fact historically sets forth the profound conviction of Edward Kemp and other inhabitants of the town of Dedham in 1644 that a free school was indispensable to the welfare of the people of each settlement in New England as soon as they had the means of supporting one by taxation. The Rev. Carlos Slafter of Dedham, in a communication written in 1866, calls attention to it, saying: "I am not aware that a tax was levied upon the inhabitants of any other town for the support of a free school as early as this. Dorchester appropriated, in 1639, the rentage of 'Tomsons Island,' which had been granted to the town by the General Court several years before, for the maintenance of a school."

The following transcript is *verbatim et literatim*. The punctuation has been supplied.

"1644. 'At a meeting the first day of the Eleventh month Assembled those whose names are under written with other the inhabitants of this Towne [of Dedham].

"'The sd Inhabitants taking into Consideration the great necesitie of providing some meanes for the Education of the youth in o<sup>r</sup> sd Towne, did in an unanimous consent declare by voate their willingnes to promote that worke, promising to put too their hands to provide maintenance for a Free Schooll in our said Towne.<sup>1</sup>

"'And farther did resolute & consent, testefying it by

<sup>1</sup> Records of the Governor and Company of the Massachusetts Bay in New England, 1628-1641, vol. i, pp. 353, 375. The Early Records of the Town of Dedham, edited by Don Gleason Hill, town clerk, vol. iii, pp. 1, 2, 3, 47, 48, 49, 66, 84, 93, 95, 96, 98, 106, 107, 110, 152, 154, 171, 172, 176, 178, 185. The New England Historical and Genealogical Register, 1866, vol. xxi, pp. 165, 166.

a voate to rayse the some of Twenty pounds p. annu : towards the maintaining of a Schoole m<sup>r</sup> to keep a free Schoole in our sd Towne.' ”

The resolution had the approval of more than forty of the tax-payers of the town in attendance, Edwin Kemp being one of the voters.

Leaving Dedham in the spring of 1652, Edward Kemp moved to Wenham, distant about twenty miles northeasterly from Boston and six north of Salem. The site of the village was embraced in the tract of land which the inhabitants of Salem, having on November 5, 1639, “agreed to plant a village near the river which runneth to Ipswich,” were granted. The first settlers called the place Enon, which, when the town was incorporated in 1643, obtained the name of Wenham.

Samuel Foster, Edward Kemp's son-in-law, also, in 1652, changed his residence from Dedham to Wenham. Among the first settlers of the place were Esdras Read, Richard Goldsmith, and Austin Killam.

The Rev. John Fiske, born in England in 1601, and educated at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, was ordained pastor of the church at Wenham on October 8, 1644. In 1637 he had quitted England in disguise to escape persecution, the Rev. John Allin, who became pastor of the church at Dedham, being a passenger on the same ship.

Edward Kemp was chosen, on May 14, 1655, a deacon of the Wenham church, then having probably not more than twenty members. As recorded, he and a number of other residents of the town, in November, 1655, accepted certain proposals made them to remove to

Chelmsford, about twenty-three miles northwest of Wenham, also in Massachusetts Bay Colony. Their exodus is described in the following words:

“In September, 1654, propositions were made to the church of Wenham and their pastor, the Rev. John Fiske, to remove to this place [*i. e.*, Chelmsford]. An account of these negotiations in the quaint diction of the time has been preserved in the handwriting of Mr. Fiske:

“‘A day was set of meeting at Chelmsford.’

“‘Vpon the sd day set diuers of ye Brethren accompanied the Pastor ouer vnto Chelms. where ye Comittee & diuers others were present. A view was taken of ye place. The Brethren prsent satisfyed themselves aboute theire accommodations & proposalls were then made to ye pastor for his accommodation & yearely mayntenance, as to be tenderd vnto him by consent of ye whole of Inhabitants & in their name by ye Comittee.’

“Soon after their return to Wenham, the major part of the church, seven in number, with their pastor decided to accept Chelmsford’s proposals. But at this stage of the proceedings, for some unexplained reason, the negotiations were broken off.

“‘Thus the matter Lay dormant as ’twere all winter till ye 1st mo [March], 55, at which time Bro: Read coming ouer enformed vs in such wise here at Wenham as therevpon both ye P. & ye sd engaged brethren demurred vpon ye proceedings & some yt [that] had sold here at Wenham, redeemed their accommodations agayne into their possession and a Letter was sutably sent by

Br. Read to acquainte ye Chelmsf. comittee how things stood & advised to stead themselves elsewhere.'

"The matter was not abandoned however; several letters passed between them. And in June, 1655,

"'Isa. Lernet, Sim. Thompson & Tho: Adams' went with letters from the people of Chelmsford, entrusted 'with full power to them to treat & finally to determine the busines depending betwene both parties.' It was finally decided 'to refer the matter to counsell and ye parties agreed vpon were Mr. Endicott, Governor; Mr. Mather, Mr. Allen, of Dedham; Mr. Cobbet, Mr. Sherman, Capt. Johnson, of Wooburne, who determined the case for Chelmsford.

"'This case thus determined: on either side preparation was made for ye Removal of the church.

"'Accordingly about ye 13th of 9 mo [November], 55, There were met at Chelmsford, the pastor with ye Engaged Brethren of Wenham Church, viz., Ezdras Read, Edw. Kemp, Austin Killam, Ser. [Sergeant Samuel] Foster, Geo. Byam & Rich. Goldsmith, seuen in all To whom such of the Brethren of Wooburne & Concord Ch: late at Wenham, Now, in Removing to Chelmsford, presented themselves & Testimony Giuen, were by an vnanimous vote Recejved into fellowship,' " etc.

Chelmsford was named after a village in Essex County, England, which derived its name from the river Chelmer, on which it is situated. It is said that about twenty persons from Woburn and Concord, at the last session of the General Court of Massachusetts Bay Colony, in 1652, petitioned for liberty to examine a tract of land "lying

on the other [or west] side of Concord River. The court accepted and granted their request. Having by a joint committee examined and viewed the aforesaid tract of land, and having found divers others, to the number of thirty-nine in all, desirous of uniting with them in erecting a new plantation, they jointly petitioned the legislature [on May 1, 1653] for a grant of land," bordering upon the river Merrimac, near Pawtucket." This tract became the town of Chelmsford.

The first town meeting was held on November 22, 1654. The town of Chelmsford was incorporated on May 29, 1655. The origin of the church there is not certainly known. Its existence began about the time of the exodus from Wenham, at which place the Rev. John Fiske had formed a religious society about the year 1644.

The names of Edward Kemp, Samuel Foster, and Samuel Kemp appear among those of the signers of a petition for permission to trade with the Indians, addressed "To the honored Court assembled at Boston," dated at "Chelmsford, May 17, 1658." Samuel Kemp, whom Edward Kemp in his will calls his "kinsman," did not remain long thereafter in the town as a settler, for before the close of the year 1658 he was in possession of a tract of land in the adjacent town of Billerica.

From the Rev. John Fiske's note-book is derived the information that he began catechising in public at Chelmsford early in April, 1665, and that "Brother Kemp" had catechisms, which could be purchased at sixpence each. The entry, "'Sister' Kemp, wife of Deacon Edward, d.," evidently is authority for the dec-

laration that she died at Wenham before the exodus of 1655.

Besides having different tracts of land apportioned to him at Chelmsford, he, on September 3, 1667, was "granted to hold that meadow that was laid out to Samuel Kemp, lying beyond Stony Brook, containing nine acres, more or less; and ten acres of plain, lying on the Pine Plain, lying by the Great Swamp; unless any person appear within one year for whom the Town shall desire it, paying to Edward Kemp forty shillings, with such due consideration as shall be thought meet by the selectmen."

In the inventory of his property, made shortly after his decease on December 17, 1668, his dwelling-house, barn, and the land on which they were standing were appraised at £50; his outlying land at £72; his horses, oxen, and cows at £33; his hives of bees at £2; his pewter- and brass-ware at £6; his saddle and pillion at £1; debts due him by book and bill at £36; and his shop tools, agricultural implements, and household goods at £82 5s. 8d.

The composition of his will, written by some unknown person, strikingly exemplifies the peculiar style of writing and spelling in vogue in the colonies at that time:

"Know All men by these presents that I, Edward Kemp of Chelmsford in the coun. of Middlesex in the Massachusets in New England, blacksmith, being at the Date hereof in good & perfect memory, do make this my last will & testam<sup>t</sup> in manner & forme as followeth, Imp<sup>r</sup>. [Imprimis]. I comitt my Soul into the hands of almighty God that gave it, and my body vnto the earth

whence it came, to receive a decent Xtañ [Christian] buriall at the charge of my excecuto<sup>rs</sup>, hoping for a glorious resurreccoñ of the same, and revnion thereof with my soul, through the power and mercy of the Lord Christ my Savio<sup>r</sup> at the great day of his appearing.

“It. [Item.] As concerning the outward goods of this life, w<sup>ch</sup> the Lord hath betrusted mee with, I do give and bequeath them as followeth,

“Imp<sup>r</sup>. I do give & bequeath vnto Samuel foster my grandchild my shop tooles, & my fowling peece.

“It. I give vnto the said Samuel my Grandchild ten pounds, to be payd him by my excecuto<sup>rs</sup>, according as he shall be capeable of making vse of the same.

“It. I give vnto Samuel Kemp of grotton, my kinsman, one of those cowes of mine, w<sup>ch</sup> he hath the present vse of vpon hire.

“It. I give & bequeath to the vse of the Church of Chelmsford ten shillings to be payd into the hands of the deacons by my excecuto<sup>rs</sup>.

“It. I give vnto Mr John fiske Pasto<sup>r</sup> to the Church of Chelmsford ten shillings to be payd by mine excecutors.

“It. I give vnto Moses fiske of Chelmsford ten shillings to be payd by my excecuto<sup>rs</sup>.

“It. as touching all the rest of my outward estate, over and besides the above specified legacies, I do give and bequeath with all my housen, lands, goods, household furniture, stocke, or whatsoever or by whatever name the same may be called, whereof I am possessed or wherevnto I may claime a legall right, in whose hand soever, with all debts due vnto mee by any person what-

soever, vnto my sonne in law Samuel foster, & vnto Ester foster his wife, To have & to hold to them & to their heyres & assignes forever.

"It. I do hereby constitute & ordeine, the said Samuel foster, my sonne in law, my sole excecuto<sup>r</sup> to this my last will & testam<sup>t</sup>. and Mr. Thomas Hincksman of Chelmsford aforesaid my suprvisor to the same, Alwayes provided & my mind & will is that the said Samuel foster my excecuto<sup>r</sup> shall allow or cause to be allowed competent sattisfaccoñ vnto the said Mr. Thomas Hincksman, for all such necessary expences of time, labor, or otherwise as he shall be occasionally put vnto, in the faithfull discharge of that trust reposed by mee vpon him in the said place & worke of supervisorship.

"In witnes vnto this my said will & testam<sup>t</sup> as above expressed, I, the said Edward Kemp haue vpon this twenty seaventh day of January in the yeare of our Lord one thousand six hundred sixty & seaven, put my hand & seale.

"Sealed & deliu<sup>d</sup> In the      "F K — the marke of  
presence off. Jno. fiske, sen<sup>r</sup>. "Edward Kemp & a seale.  
Edward Spalding,  
Moses fiske." <sup>1</sup>

Esther, the daughter of Edward Kemp, and wife of Samuel Foster (who bore the titles of deacon and sergeant), was the mother of twelve children, nine boys and

<sup>1</sup> The will was probated in April, 1669, of which there is a transcript in the Probate Records of the county of Middlesex, Massachusetts, in the Record Office at East Cambridge, vol. iii, pp. 161-163; also one of the inventory exhibited, on April 6, 1669, by Samuel Foster, the executor.

three girls, born in Chelmsford, the first on April 30, 1657, and the last on March 8, 1696. She died in Chelmsford on April 16, 1702, and her husband on July 16 of that year.<sup>1</sup>

## VII

## SAMUEL KEMP, PROGENITOR

THE village of Billerica, in Middlesex County, Massachusetts, is about twenty-eight miles northwest of Boston, thirteen northwest of Woburn, eight southeast of Lowell, six east of Chelmsford, and six north of Bedford. The territory of the town which bears the same name was early called Shawshin. The first farm there was probably occupied in 1652. Two years later there were nine families settled at Shawshin. On May 30, 1655, the name Billerica, after Billericay, a village in Essex County, England, was bestowed upon the town.

In November, 1654, the following quaintly written (and later interpolated) entry is found to be one of the earliest records that have been preserved descriptive of the beginnings of the town:

“Sertin Orders made by vs the present inhabitantes of the Towne of Billericey, for y<sup>e</sup> weall of y<sup>e</sup> [town]:

<sup>1</sup>The History of Wenham, Mass., by Myron O. Allen, Boston, 1860, pp. 13, 24, 25. Manual of the Congregational Church in Wenham, Mass., by the Rev. W. C. Wood, Bristol, N. H., 1879, pp. 13, 14, 75, 77, 78. Extracts from the Note-book of the Rev. John Fiske, with an introduction by Samuel A. Green, Cambridge, 1898, pp. 6, 9, 10, 12, 13.

“ 1<sup>ly</sup> [That wh]at person or persons soever [shall] propound themselves to be [inhabi]tantes amongst vs, to p<sup>r</sup>take of [the pr]iviledges of the comons, devitions [of la]ndes, &c., if not known to vs, he or they shall bring with them a certificate from the place from whence they come, such a testimony as shall be satisfactory to o<sup>r</sup> towne, or select p<sup>r</sup>sons of the same, before they shall be admitted as inhabitants amongste vs, to p<sup>r</sup>take of any priviledges as aforesaid with vs; and after their Admission they shall subscribe their names to all the orders of the Towne, with o<sup>r</sup>selves, y<sup>t</sup> are or shall be made for the public good of the place, as also for baring vp their proportions in all publique charges, in Church, Towne, or comon weall, with those persons that came vp at the first, and so shall have their priviledges in equall proportion.”

In 1658 there were twenty-five families in the town. There was a road from it to Woburn, another to Concord, one to Chelmsford, and one to Andover. “These roads were little more than paths in the woods; indeed the word ‘path’ is not infrequently applied to them in the records. Fences were not yet built, and the care of cattle and swine was a matter of common concern. A herd in the care of a keeper, driven out in the morning and home at night, was the natural convenience of their primitive life.”

“It needed hardy, courageous, self-relying men and women to plant homes in this wilderness; men and women who could live happily without luxuries, or what their children deem conveniences, and fertile in resources to supply their own necessities. Such, it is plain, were

these Billerica men. They had discouragements, dangers, hardships, in plenty, but they were of too sturdy stuff" not to be able to meet and surmount them.

The distinction of being the progenitor of those inhabitants of New England who were surnamed Kemp, exclusive of the contemporary offspring and probably undiscoverable descendants of "Mr." William Kemp of Duxbury and of Edward Kemp of Chelmsford, places Samuel Kemp in a field of view particularly interesting to those who may be enabled to trace the line of their descent through him to ancestors also born in England, even to remote centuries. There are certainly many historical facts which afford tenable ground on which to found this supposition.

No reason more definite than a disinclination to settle at Chelmsford seems ascribable for Samuel Kemp's quitting that town after sojourning there a short time. Required as he was to subscribe his name to the agreement of association of the settlers of the town of Billerica, when, in 1658, he made known his desire of becoming one of their number, Samuel Kemp willingly covenanted to comply with the laws and ordinances instituted for the protection and welfare of the inhabitants. He was thereupon granted a half-share of land for a farm, a whole share being called a ten-acre lot. In order that this phraseology may not be wrongly interpreted, it may be explained that the lots into which the town had been divided were locally denominated ten- and five-acre lots, the ten-acre lots comprising one hundred and thirteen acres of upland and twelve of meadow, and the five-acre

lots half the quantity of land contained in the ten-acre lots.

"The five-acre lot, or halfe a single share" of land granted him is described as "lying on Loes Plaine" and "bounded by ye comons west, by ye churches farm on ye south, and ye highway, which parts Jacob Browne and him, north," The use of the strange word "Loes" to designate the stretch of level ground forming a part of Samuel Kemp's farm was originated by one of the settlers who had lived in Framlingham, in Loes Hundred, a district so called in Suffolk County, England.

Exposed as the town was to attacks by hostile Indians, the circumspect settlers in 1660 organized a military company, called the Train-Band, for the protection of the inhabitants and their property. Knowing Samuel Kemp to be somewhat practised in the art of music, they elected him, on October 24, 1661, drummer of the Train-Band, of which, at the same time, James Kidder was chosen sergeant, Thomas Foster senior corporal, George Farley junior corporal, and William Hamlet clerk.

The first four years of his occupation of the farm allotted him were spent in bringing it under cultivation and in erecting on it a log dwelling with a thatched roof, a barn, and other outbuildings. Possessing probably a yoke of oxen, one or more horses, a number of hogs, several cows, including the one hired of his kinsman Edward Kemp of Chelmsford, Samuel Kemp was well situated to take unto himself a wife. On May 23, 1662, he became the husband of Sarah, daughter of Sergeant Thomas and Elizabeth Foster from Braintree, who had settled in Billerica in June, 1659.

The restoration of Charles II, in 1660, to the throne of England, displacing the government styled the Commonwealth, was taken advantage of by certain persons in New England to engender political dissensions. To refute the charges made of existing dissatisfaction in the town of Billerica with the change of the form of government, an address, dated October 19, 1664, was sent to the General Court of Massachusetts Bay, titled "The Humble Representation of the Inhabitants, both free-men and others, of the Town of Billerica," bearing the signatures of thirty-five of the loyal settlers, which included those of Samuel Kemp and Thomas Foster. The number of families occupying farms in the town probably aggregated not more than forty-five at that time.<sup>1</sup>

Finding it to his advantage to sell his farm and the improvements on it to Thomas Ross, Samuel Kemp, after parting with his property in Billerica, removed thence, in the spring of 1667, to the town of Groton, about sixteen miles westward. The occupation of lands within its bounds began later than at Billerica. This is historically disclosed by the recorded action of the General Court sitting in Boston on July 23, 1655.

"There being a petition preferred by Mr. Dean Winthrop [son of Governor John Winthrop], Mr. Thomas Hinckley, and divers others for a plantation upon the river that runs from Nashua into Merrimack, called Petapaway, and another from some of the inhabitants of Concord for a plantation in the same place, to both of

<sup>1</sup> History of Billerica, Massachusetts, with a Genealogical Register, by the Rev. Henry A. Hazen, Boston, 1883, pp. 17, 25, 40, 53, 57, 64, 65, 92, 154, 158, 160, 161, 162, 165, 185, 191; Genealogical Register, p. 80.

which the Court returned this answer: That the Court thinks meet to grant the petitioners eight miles square in the place desired, to make a plantation, which henceforth shall be called Groaten [*sic*], formerly known by the name of Petapaway, and that Mr. [Thomas] Danforth of Cambridge, with such others as he shall associate to himself, shall and hereby is desired to lay it out with all convenient speed, that so no encouragement may be wanting to the petitioners for the speedy procuring of a godly Minister amongst them, provided that none shall enjoy any right or portion of that land by gift, from the Selectmen of that place, but such as shall build houses on their lots, so given them, within eighteen months from the time of said town's laying out, or town's grant to such persons, and for the present Mr. Dean Winthrop, Mr. John Tinker, Mr. Thomas Hinckley, Dolor Davis, William Martin, Matthew Harrington, John Witt, and Timothy Cooper are appointed the Selectmen for the said Groton for two years from the time it is laid out, to lay out and dispose of particular lots, not exceeding twenty acres to each house lot, and to order the prudential affairs of the place, at the end of which time, other Selectmen shall be chosen and appointed in their rooms; the said Selectmen of Groton giving Mr. Danforth such satisfaction for his service and pains as they and he shall agree." The name Groton, spelled "Groaten" in the first part of the grant of the General Court, was given to the plantation by Dean Winthrop, whose father came from Groton, Suffolk County, England.

A committee, appointed by the General Court in October, 1659, to view the plantation and report its condi-

tion and prospects, advised the court that it would be advantageous that the lands and meadows should be so divided that they would accommodate at least sixty families, that none have less than ten acres for a house-lot and five acres of meadow, two and a half of intervale, and two and a half of other land for their planting, in the first division, and that none be admitted to settle there, but on the following conditions:

“ 1. That they go up with their families within two years after their grants, on penalty of forfeiting their grants again to the town and so many shillings as they had acres granted them for their house lots, and that the like injunctions be put upon those above named as old planters.

“ 2. That all town charges, both civil and ecclesiastical, be levied according to each man's grant in this first division of lands, for seven years next ensuing, excepting only such whose stocks of cattle shall exceed one hundred and fifty pounds estate.

“ 3. That the power of admission of inhabitants and regulating the affairs of the said place be referred to a committee of meet persons, empowered by the General Court thereto, until the plantation be in some good measure (at least) filled with inhabitants and be enabled regularly and peaceably to carry on the same themselves.”

After the acceptance of the report of the committee by the General Court, the settlement of families on land within the bounds of the town proceeded with many evidences of prosperity. As reported at that time, there were not more than four or five families occupying farms in the town.

The first recorded town meeting was held on June 23, 1662. It was then agreed by the settlers that the house for the minister should "be set upon the plane where it is now framing." It was also voted that the meeting-house should "be set upon the right hand of the path, by a small white oak, marked on the south-west side with two notches and a blaze." In 1663 the Rev. Samuel Willard was ordained as pastor of the Groton congregation. From that time until the completion of the meeting-house the inhabitants worshipped in the minister's dwelling. The work on the frame building was not vigorously pushed to a speedy conclusion. "At a general town meeting, held on the fifth of the eighth month, 1666, it was voted by a major part of the town, that the meeting-house frame, that is now framed, is to be removed and to be set up in a place near the corner of Joseph Parker's fence." The thatching of the roof was accomplished at a cost for material and labor aggregating £12 7s. 8d. The making of the pulpit required an expenditure of £3, and the glass for the windows £3 5s.

The completion of the meeting-house at the end of December, 1666-7, is disclosed by the following minutes:

"At a general town-meeting, held 24th 10th m., 1666, it was agreed, and by vote declared, that all the lower seats in the new meeting-house, that now is, should be divided, six for men, and six for women, and also the front seats for the gallery; the best provision that the town can provide both for the minister and also for the people to sit upon the next Lord's day come sevensnight; and every one to be placed in their places, as they shall continue in the future."

"At a general town meeting, held 31, 10 m., 1666, For better proceeding in setting seats for the women, as well as for the men, it was agreed, and by vote declared, that the front gallery on the north side of the meeting-house should be divided in the middle, and the men that shall be placed there, their wives are to be placed by their husbands, as they are below."

The records of the town contain not a few peculiar enactments of the early settlers. Several of the most striking are the following:

"At a general town meeting, held 5 March, 1665-6, it was agreed and voted, that there should be trees marked for shade for the cattle in all common highways." At the same meeting it was also agreed and voted "that the mark [designating each tree set apart for this purpose] should be a great T," and that any person who "shall fell or lop any such tree marked by the men appointed, shall pay for every tree fallen or lopped [words illegible] shillings."

"At a meeting of the Selectmen, January 13, 1673-4, it was then agreed upon, and by vote declared, that all such town highways regularly laid out and marked with the town mark, all the wood and timber upon these highways so marked, from half a foot and upward at stub, walnut and pine trees excepted, shall be reserved for manding of the highways and other public works, and that no man shall fell any such tree or trees upon the penalty of ten shillings a tree."<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> History of the Town of Groton, including Pepperell and Shirley, by Caleb Butler, Boston, 1848, pp. 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 25, 34, 36, 137, 138, 139.

Samuel Kemp and the other settlers of the town of Groton had not as yet been mentally disturbed by any fears of becoming the victims of Indian enmity. They were quietly enjoying the fruits of their toil in seeing the enlargement of the cultivatable areas of their farms and the increasing comforts of their growing households, when, in the spring of 1675, they were alarmed by a rumor of the hostile attitude of the savages, whom the noted sachem of the Wampanoags, Metacom, called by the English King Philip, had incited to take part with him in an attempt to extirpate the colonists of New England. Being well provided with firearms and ammunition, and also somewhat skilled in the use of them, not a few warriors of other tribes were then already on the war-path under his leadership. The early discovery of King Philip's purpose happily enabled the people of the different settlements to make hasty preparations for the protection of themselves and property.

The first of the many horrifying events of what is historically styled King Philip's War was the massacre, on June 24, 1675, of eight or nine colonists at Swansey, about forty-six miles southwest of Boston. Although more than seventy miles distant from that scene of bloodshed, the settlers of the town of Groton, apprehensive that the Weymessit Indians occupying the site of Lowell might break faith with the colonists and ally themselves with King Philip's followers, speedily took steps to have a small body of soldiers stationed there to scout about the outlying country in order to detect the presence in the neighborhood of any savages affording evidence of hostile intentions. The stern exigencies of

this period of general alarm caused the selectmen of the town to vote, on July 22, 1675, the sum of £23 14s. 4d. to defray the expenses of the war. While nothing of any local import occurred to magnify the perils of their position on the frontier of the colony during the summer and autumn, the cautious settlers were not willing to pass the winter on their farms without the protection of the soldiers whom they had felt obliged to retain there since the beginning of the war. Therefore, at a general town meeting, held on December 9, 1675, they agreed and by vote declared that the soldiers who were still remaining in the town should continue there at the town charge until favorable information should be received from the army sent against the Narragansett Indians. This resolution was assuredly wisely taken, inasmuch as the later presence of the soldiers in the town in no little measure contributed to the preservation of most, if not all, the lives of the inhabitants. The particulars of the shocking atrocities of the bloodthirsty enemy of which they were horrified witnesses are contained in a narrative written by a contemporary clergyman:

“The surprisal of Groton was after this manner: On the 2d [of March, 1676,] the Indians came in the night and rifled eight or nine houses, and carried away some cattle, and alarmed the town. On March 9th, about ten in the morning, a party of Indians, (having two days lurked in the town, and taken possession of three out-houses, and feasted themselves with corn, divers swine, and poultry, which they there seized,) laid an ambush for two carts which went from the garrison to fetch in some hay attended by four men, two of whom espying

the enemy made a difficult escape, the other two were set upon and one of them slain, stripped naked, his body mangled and dragged into the highway, and laid on his back in a most shameful manner; the other taken captive and sentenced to death, but the enemy not concurring in the manner of it, execution was deferred, and he by the providence of God escaped by a bold attempt the night before he was designed to have been slaughtered, and fled to the garrison at Lancaster; the cattle in both towns wounded and five of them slain.

“March 13th was the day when the enemy came in a full body, by their own account four hundred, and thought by the inhabitants to be not many less. The town was at this time (having been put into a fright by the sad catastrophe at Lancaster, the next bordering town,<sup>1</sup>) gathered into five garrisons, four of which were so near together as to be able to command from one to the other, between which were the cattle belonging to those families [having had the said cattle previously] driven into pastures, which afterwards proved their preservation; the other [garrison] was near a mile distant from the rest.

“This morning the Indians (having in the night placed themselves in several parts of the town,) made their onset, which began near the four garrisons; for a body of them having placed themselves in an ambuscade behind a hill near one of the garrisons, two then made discovery [show] of themselves, as if they stood upon discovery. At this time divers of the people, not suspecting

<sup>1</sup> Fifty of the inhabitants of the town having been slain and taken captive by a force of fifteen hundred Indians, under King Philip, who assailed the town on February 21, 1676.

any such matter, (for the day before many had been upon discovery [by reconnoitering] many miles, and found no signs of an enemy being so near,) were attending their occasions [chores], some foddering their cattle, some milking their cows, of whom the enemy might easily have made a seizure, but God prevented; they having another design in hand, as soon after appeared. These two Indians were at length espied and the alarm given; whereupon the most of the men in the next garrison and some also in the second, (which was about eight or nine poles distant,) drew out and went to surprise those two Indians, till our men reached the brow of the hill, then arose the ambush and discharged a volley upon them, which caused a disorderly retreat or rather a rout, in which one was slain and three others wounded. Meanwhile another ambuscade had arisen and come upon the back side of the garrison so deserted of men and pulled down the palisadoes. The soldiery in this rout retreated not to their own but passed by to the next garrison, the women and children meanwhile exposed to hazard, but, by the goodness of God, made a safe escape to the other fortified house without any harm, leaving their substance to the enemy, who made a prey of it, and spent the residue of the day in removing the corn and household stuff, (in which loss five families were impoverished,) and in firing upon the other garrison. Here also they took some cattle. No sooner was the signal given by the first volley of shot than immediately, in several parts of the town, did smoke arise, they firing the houses.

“In the afternoon they used a stratagem, not unlike

the other, to have surprised the single garrison, but God prevented. An old Indian (if an Indian,) passed along the street with a black sheep on his back, with a slow pace as one decrepid. They made several shots at him, at which several [of the garrison] issued out to have taken him alive, but the watchman, seasonably espying an ambush behind the house, gave the signal whereby they were preserved.

“The night following the enemy lodged in the town, some of them in the garrison they had surprised, but the body of them in an adjacent valley, where they made themselves merry after their savage manner. The next morning they gave two or three volleys at Captain Parker’s garrison, and then marched off, fearing, as was thought, that a supply [or a succoring body of soldiers] might be nigh at hand.

“This assault of theirs was managed with their wonted subtlety and barbarous cruelty, for they stripped the body of him whom they had slain in the first onset, and then cutting off his head, fixed it upon a pole looking towards his own land. The corpse of the man slain the week before, they dug out of his grave, they cut off his head and one leg, and set them upon poles, and stripped off his winding sheet. An infant, which they found dead in the house first surprised, they cut in pieces, which afterward they cast to the swine.”

On March 14th Major Simon Willard, with seventy horse, came to the relief of the settlers, and also forty foot-soldiers from Watertown; “but the Indians were all fled, having first burnt all the houses [about forty] in the town save four that were garrisoned, the meeting-house

being the second house they fired. Soon after Captain Sill was sent with a small party of dragoons, of eight files, to fetch off the inhabitants of Groton and what was left from the spoil of the enemy, having under his conduct about sixty carts, being in depth [or in line] from front to rear above two miles, when a party of Indians, lying in ambush, at a place of eminent advantage, fired upon the front and mortally wounded two of the first carriers, who both died that night, [and would] (had God permitted) have done eminent damage to the whole body, it being a full hour before the whole body could be drawn up, which was done with care and courage; but the Indians, after a few more shots made without doing harm, retired and made no further assault upon them."

On Sunday, March 20, the Indians fell upon Marlborough, about eighteen miles south of Groton, while the settlers were worshipping in their meeting-house. Fortunately no one was killed, and they speedily took refuge in their fort, and escaped bodily harm, excepting one man, who was slightly wounded. The meeting-house and many dwellings, left without protection, were burned by the savages. Lancaster, which had been attacked a month before it, lay about midway between Groton and Marlborough.

The committee appointed by the General Court, early in the month of March, 1676, to report upon the best means for the preservation of the frontier towns of the county of Middlesex, on March 28 advised that the inhabitants of such towns as Lancaster, Groton, and Marlborough, who were forced to quit them, should be

ordered to settle at other frontier towns in order to strengthen them with defenders, and that the people of those towns to which they were sent should see to the accommodation of the homeless sojourners.

Concord, distant about fourteen miles southeasterly from Groton, was resorted to as a place of temporary residence by some of the dispersed settlers. As Samuel Kemp is recorded as having taken at Andover, about twenty-three miles northeast of Groton, the oath of allegiance to the general government, on February 11, 1678, it may justly be assumed that he and his family were then abiding in that town.

On December 12, 1677, those of the settlers of the town of Groton dwelling temporarily at Concord, at a special meeting held for the purpose of ascertaining the number who were willing to return to their abandoned farms and again engage in the cultivation of them, resolved: "That if the providence of God prevent not by death or sickness, or by the enemy, that then we will go up in the Spring following, and begin to repair our habitations again, if God permit; and for the true performance of this agreement we do engage the forfeiture of our whole right in Groton unto those that do go up and carry on the work."

Samuel Kemp was no doubt timely informed of this intention, and promptly began making whatever preparations as were necessary for the journey and the transportation of such goods, furniture, and agricultural implements of which he was possessed, or which he was able to purchase. He was then the father of five children: the eldest a son, bearing his name, fifteen years

of age, and the youngest, also a son, an infant born during the family's exile, and commemoratively christened Zerubbabel, "a stranger by confusion."

The undisturbed reseating of the settlers upon their farms, and the gradual increase of the means by which they were enabled to reach higher planes of prosperity than any they had previously attained to as colonists of New England, made them the more appreciative of the favorable circumstances permitting them the greater enjoyment of their worldly possessions, as well as such social and educative advantages as were then afforded them as frontier people. Zealously concerned for the betterment of the condition of the highways in the vicinity of his farm, the interested people of his neighborhood elected, on December 10, 1684, Samuel Kemp one of the four surveyors of the town.

When King William's War, so called, began in 1689, the frontier towns of New England again became scenes of Indian cruelty and ruthless incendiarism. On March 17, 1691-92, seven garrisons were established in different parts of the town of Groton. In the northerly part, where lay the farms of Enoch Lawrence, Lieutenant Lakin, Joseph Lawrence, Samuel Walmer, James Blood, John Shattuck, Samuel Kemp, and Daniel Barney, the garrison comprised thirteen men.

As chronicled by Cotton Mather, the settlers of the town of Groton were surprised, on July 27, 1694, about daybreak, by a party of hostile Indians. "They began their attacks at the house of one Lieutenant Lakin, in the outskirts of the town, but met with a repulse there, and lost one of their crew. Nevertheless, in other parts of that plantation, (where the good people had become

so tired out as to lay down their military watch,) there were more than twenty persons killed, and more than a dozen carried away." The same writer further relates "that, in June, 1697, one man was killed at Groton, and another with two children carried into captivity." From that year until 1702 the New England colonists were not disturbed in their peaceful occupations by the horrors of Indian warfare.

King Philip's War, the first afflicting the colonists of New England, may be regarded as the most distressing one of all the Indian wars which decimated the number of its inhabitants and subjected the survivors to direful ordeals of mental and bodily suffering. In it not less than six hundred of the settlers lost their lives, twelve towns were laid waste, and six hundred and more buildings, mostly dwellings, burned.

Later than the year 1692 there are no particulars apparently extant relating to Samuel Kemp. It may reasonably be inferred that the span of his natural life did not extend beyond the last decade of the seventeenth century.<sup>1</sup>

## VIII

### JONATHAN KEMP OF THE FIRST GENERATION

JONATHAN, the second son of Samuel and Sarah Foster Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on April 6, 1668, was by many adverse experiences per-

<sup>1</sup>History of the Town of Groton, including Pepperell and Shirley, by Caleb Butler, Boston, 1848, pp. 68, 69, 70, 73, 76-80, 81, 84, 85, 86, 91, 93, 95.

sonally inured during the first forty years of his life to most of the hardships and perils incident to his having a home in a frontier town so exposed as that of his nativity to frequent incursions of bloodthirsty savages. In all probability they restrained him from taking unto himself a wife until the termination of King William's War in 1697. Being ardently enamoured of Mary, a daughter of Joseph Gilson, one of the original proprietors of land in the town of Groton, they were united in holy matrimony in 1698.

Upon the outbreak of hostilities between Great Britain and France in 1702, known as Queen Anne's War, which continued through a period of eleven years, the colonists of New England, particularly those of the frontier towns, were again subjected to the malevolence and treachery of Indian foes. In 1697 the people of Groton became so greatly alarmed for their safety that the town came near being deserted and again abandoned. While it appears that Jonathan Kemp's brothers, Samuel and Zerubbabel, at that time entertained thoughts of removing from it with their families, neither of them left it. Jonathan, however, concluded to settle at Chelmsford, where he seated himself and his family, that year, upon an unoccupied farm.

The town of Chelmsford being diversified for the most part by meadows and uplands, with here and there, at that time, stretches of virgin forests, and irrigated by numerous meandering creeks and rivulets, its fertile tracts of alluvial soil afforded many desirable sites for farms. The land embraced in the one obtained by Jonathan Kemp bordered upon the stream called the

Great Brook, on the east side of which was laid out to him, on February 15, 1711, two additional acres of meadow ground. On June 21, 1718, he acquired another acre adjacent to it.

His first wife having died at Chelmsford, he married, on November 19, 1718, in Concord, her sister Sarah, born in Groton on June 25, 1669. Shortly after becoming husband and wife they moved to Billerica, where their daughter Mary was born on December 11, 1719. At that time the Billerica congregation was worshipping in the second meeting-house, built in 1694 on the site of the first one. On a preserved list of the occupants, in 1736, of the different benches in the meeting-house, Jonathan Kemp is named as having a seat on the fourth one in the body of the building, his son Joseph one on the sixth, and his son Jonathan one on the seventh, each bench affording seats for ten persons. Josiah, his second son, sat on the second bench in the front gallery.

As the name of the senior Jonathan Kemp does not appear on the list of tax-payers in the town of Billerica after the year 1753, it is reasonable to suppose that he died about the close of it, being then eighty-five years old.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> History of the Town of Groton, including Pepperell and Shirley, by Caleb Butler, Boston, 1848, pp. 98, 99. History of Billerica, Massachusetts, with a Genealogical Register, by the Rev. Henry A. Hazen, Boston, 1883, pp. 179, 180, 204; Genealogical Register, p. 80.

## IX

## JOSEPH KEMP OF THE SECOND GENERATION

JOSEPH, the eldest son and child of Jonathan and Mary Gilson Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on September 10, 1699, having become of full age on the farm of his father in the town of Billerica, married, on December 20, 1720, in Concord, Margaret Chamberlain of Chelmsford. They settled in Billerica, where, in the later days of his life, he established a cooperage. The disappearance of his name from the list of taxpayers in the town after the year 1755 was a consequence of his decease in 1756. He was the father of seven sons, two of whom served as soldiers in the French and Indian War, and five in the War of the Revolution.

## X

BENJAMIN KEMP OF THE THIRD  
GENERATION

BENJAMIN, the third son of Joseph and Margaret Chamberlain Kemp, born in Billerica on June 20, 1731, was still a resident of that town when his father died there in 1756. He had not completed his twenty-seventh year when, on May 1, 1758, he enlisted in Captain Jonathan Butterfield's company, raised to go that year in the expedition against Canada, commanded

by Major-General James Abercrombie. From Worcester, by the way of Leicester, Brookfield, Hadley, Northampton, and Pittsfield, they marched to Greenbush, on the east bank of the Hudson, and there, by ferry, crossed to the city of Albany, where they joined Major-General Abercrombie's army. While in camp at Albany, the company was assigned to Colonel William William's regiment, and with it passed up the Hudson Valley northward to Lake George.

"On the first of July, six thousand three hundred and sixty-seven regulars and nine thousand and twenty-four provincials were collected around the decaying ruins of Fort William Henry. Four days later the whole armament struck their tents, and in nine hundred bateaux and one hundred and thirty-five whale-boats embarked on the waters of Lake George; a large number of rafts, armed with artillery and loaded with provisions, accompanied the expedition. That night the proud host rested for five hours on Sabbath-Day Point, and early on the morning of the sixth, reached the landing at the lower end of the lake.

"Fort Carillion, against which the English were then advancing, stood near the point of the peninsula formed by the junction of the outlet of Lake George with Lake Champlain. . . . The road from Lake George to Ticonderoga crossed the river or outlet twice, with bridges. Near the lower bridge, and less than two miles from the fort, the French had built saw-mills, which were defended by a slight military work. They had also built a log camp near the landing at the foot of Lake George.

"To oppose the powerful army then advancing against

them, the French had only twenty-eight hundred regulars and four hundred and fifty Canadians. But General Montcalm was not in mind to despond. . . . With consummate judgment he marked out his lines, half a mile west of the fort, and pushed the work with such ardor that, in ten hours, a wall as many feet high had been thrown up across the high ground which lay between the swamp and the bank of the outlet. . . .

“Immediately on landing, Abercrombie, leaving his baggage, provisions, and artillery in the boats, formed his men into three columns and advanced toward Ticonderoga. The route lay through a thick and tangled wood which prevented any regular progress, and the troops, misled by the bewildered guides, were soon thrown into confusion. While thus pressing forward in disorder, the head of the advance column, under Lord Howe, fell in with a party of the French troops, who had lost their way likewise, and a warm skirmish ensued. At the first fire the gallant Howe fell and instantly expired. He was the idol of the army and had endeared himself to the men by his affability and virtues. Infuriated by the loss of their beloved leader, his men rushed forward and swept the French from the field. Abercrombie’s bugles then sounded the retreat, and the fatigued soldiers returned to the landing place, where they encamped for the night.

“Early on the morning of the seventh, Lieutenant-Colonel Bradstreet moved forward with a strong party and took possession of the saw-mills, while Abercrombie again formed his men in order of battle, and prepared to advance against the French works. But the attack was

not made until the morning of the eighth, when the whole army was brought up, except a small detachment left to guard the boats, and a provincial regiment stationed at the saw-mills.

“Montcalm had that morning received a reinforcement of four hundred men under M. de Levy, which increased his force to about thirty-six hundred. Behind the newly-erected lines, which were then strengthened by a wide and difficult *abattis*, he posted the tried battalions of La Reine, La Sarre, Bearn, Guyenne, Berry, Languedoc, and Roussillon, and calmly awaited the onset.

“As the English approached, the rangers, light infantry, bateau-men, and Ruggles's, Dotey's, Partridge's, Williams's, and Bagley's regiments of the provincials, with a battalion of the New York regiment, took post in front, out of cannon-shot of the French works. Next came the regulars destined for the assault, while the Connecticut and New Jersey troops were drawn up in the rear. At one o'clock the English bugles sounded the attack, when the regular battalions moved forward with quick and steady step—the veteran Fifty-fifth leading, closely followed by the gallant Colonel Graham, at the head of Murray's Highlanders.

“As the columns approached, and when the ranks became entangled among the logs and fallen trees which protected the breastworks, Montcalm opened a galling fire of artillery and musketry, which mowed down the brave officers and men by hundreds. For four hours the English vainly strove to cut their way through the impenetrable *abattis*, until Abercrombie, despairing of success, and having already lost one thousand nine hun-

dred and forty-four men in killed and wounded, ordered a retreat. Montcalm did not pursue. Having refreshed his exhausted soldiers, he employed the night in strengthening his lines — a useless labor, for the frightened Abercrombie did not stop until he reached the head of Lake George, and even then he sent his artillery and ammunition to Albany for safety."

The English loss was: regulars, four hundred and sixty-four killed, twenty-nine missing, and one thousand one hundred and seventeen wounded; provincials, eighty-seven killed, eight missing, and two hundred and thirty-nine wounded. The French loss was one hundred and ten killed and two hundred and forty-eight wounded.

The body of Lord Howe was taken by Captain Philip Schuyler to Albany, and buried with befitting honors in a vault under the English church. On the erection of St. Peter's Episcopal Church, and the demolition of the old edifice in 1802, originally standing in the middle of Jonker (now State) Street, the remains of the distinguished English officer were interred in a tomb beneath the flooring of the new building.

The return of the discomfited army to Albany and the dispersion of the provincial troops to their different destinations cast no little gloom over the New England colonies. The disgrace of the disastrous termination of the expedition could not justly be attributed either to the British regulars or to provincial volunteers and militia, but wholly to Major-General Abercrombie, whose military indiscretion and lack of knowledge of the strength and formidableness of the position of the French were conspicuous to all under his command. Returning to Bil-

lerica, Benjamin Kemp and other of his comrades in the expedition residing there marched no less than two hundred and fifty miles.<sup>1</sup>

Not long afterwards Benjamin Kemp changed his residence to Chelmsford. Southeast of it, about eighteen miles distant, lay the village of Woburn, where Captain John Reed, who had served in the French war with considerable distinction, and had died, in 1755, at his home there, was the father of Judith, the first daughter borne him by his second wife, Judith Proctor Reed. She and Benjamin Kemp, after due acquaintance, plighted troth, and in order to conform to the church rules of that day, they made a formal declaration of their purpose to marry, and thereupon the banns were published in the places of their residence, as appears in the following record: "The names of Benjamin Kemp of Chelmsford and Judith Reed of Woburn, and their Intention of marriage were entered March 14, 1761, and publishment of such their Intention was made by Posting up their names and Intention at the Meeting-house in said Chelmsford, the day following." As is further recorded, they were married at Chelmsford on May 5, 1761.<sup>2</sup>

The name of Benjamin Kemp as a tax-payer in the

<sup>1</sup> History of Lake Champlain, by Peter S. Palmer, Albany, 1866, pp. 72, 75, 76, 77.

<sup>2</sup> John, son of Ralph and Mary Pierce Reed, born August 14, 1742, married Kezia, daughter of Nathaniel and Mary Winn Wyman, December 9, 1735; child: David. He married, second, Judith Proctor. Children: Judith, born November 10, 1745; Martha, December 3, 1747; John, January 19, 1749. He was a captain in the French war, and died January 31, 1755. *Vide*: History of the Reed Family in Europe and America, by Jacob Whittemore Reed, Boston, 1861.

town of Chelmsford appears for the first time in the book of assessments under date of November 18, 1762, where, as entered, his poll, real-estate ("houses and land"), and personal-property assessments aggregated £1 4s. 4½d. for that year. Thereafter to November 22, 1769, he is listed as a taxpayer there. The disappearance of his name from the Chelmsford tax lists was an evident consequence of his moving, in June, 1770, to the town of Ashburnham, about thirty miles westward, so called in honor of an English earl. Prior to its incorporation, in 1765, it had been known as Dorchester Canada. On December 14, 1770, Benjamin Kemp's name was registered, with the names of seventy-three other settlers, as a payer of a poll tax demanded of him that year.

After living several years in the town of Ashburnham, he moved eastward eight miles to the town of Fitchburg, where he erected for himself a dwelling. The town was then thinly inhabited, having about forty families within its bounds when it was incorporated in 1764 and titled Fitchburg in honor of John Fitch, one of its earliest settlers. The site of Benjamin Kemp's dwelling, in what is now called "the Village," is indicated by a local historian, who descriptively remarks: "Not far from the time when [David] Gibson's house was built, Benjamin Kemp built a house where Jonas Marshall's brick house now stands. But this was so far west that it was not then considered as forming a component part of the 'middle of the town.'"

The inhabitants of the town of Fitchburg were no less resolute in maintaining their declared rights than those

of the other towns in New England during the War of the Revolution. On October 4, 1774, they "voted to pay the Selectmen for providing the town with powder, lead, and flints," which required an expenditure of £14 4s.; and on November 17 they resolved to enlist forty men, including officers, to form a company of minute-men. Among those speedily enrolled as members of the patriotic organization was Benjamin Kemp, whose military experience in 1758 was of considerable advantage to him at the outbreak of the war with Great Britain.

At that time Deacon Ephraim Kimball had a store in the lower part of his dwelling, which stood where the stone factory was afterwards erected in the "Old City." The intelligence of the intended destruction of the provincial military stores at Concord by the British troops, who had entered that village early on the morning of April 19, 1775, was brought to Fitchburg about nine o'clock, and as a signal for the assembling of the minute-men an "alarm" was fired in front of Deacon Kimball's store. "This was the appointed rendezvous of the minute-men, where their guns and equipments were kept, ready for instant service. The company had spent the previous day at drill. They assembled there as soon as possible after the alarm was given, and, being joined by several volunteers, about fifty men took up the line of march for Concord, under the command of Captain (afterwards Colonel) Ebenezer Bridge. They arrived at their destination in the course of the same evening, and in sufficient season to witness some of the effects of the action, viz: some dead bodies, and several wounded

British soldiers, whom their brethren, in the rapidity of their flight, had left to the mercy of the people. . . . As there was no immediate need of their services, a large number of the men soon returned home."<sup>1</sup>

Benjamin Kemp evidently in that decade changed his residence to Pelham, New Hampshire, a small village about ten miles north of Lowell, Massachusetts, where, about the beginning of September, 1779, he enlisted "to serve for the defence of Portsmouth two months unless sooner discharged." His name is entered on a roll of the company of volunteers commanded by Captain Hezekiah Lovejoy, dated September 27, 1779. In the following year, on July 9, he enlisted in Captain James Aikens's company, in the New Hampshire regiment, in the service of the United States, commanded by Colonel Thomas Bartlett, raised for the defence of West Point. On October 24, that year, he received his discharge warrant, and returned to Pelham.

Shortly afterwards, as it appears, he returned to Fitchburg, where he lived until 1790. Meanwhile his son Benjamin, born in 1764, enlisted in 1782, in Fitchburg, to serve in the Continental Army, and on May 14, that year, was paid at Worcester, Massachusetts, by Captain Jonathan Wood of Fitchburg, the money due him as bounty. Either he or his father was elected to several town offices, one of which, in 1787, was that of surveyor of hoops and staves.

<sup>1</sup> History of Ashburnham, Massachusetts, by Ezra Stearns, Ashburnham, 1887, pp. 125, 126. History of the Town of Fitchburg, by Rufus C. Torrey, Fitchburg, 1865, pp. 80, 81, 97, 99. The Old Records of the Town of Fitchburg, by Walter A. Davis, city clerk, Fitchburg, 1898, vol. —, pp. 105, 107.

Benjamin Kemp, when he moved, in 1790, to Acworth, a small village in New Hampshire about thirty-seven miles north of Ashburnham, was not accompanied by his sons Benjamin and John Reed Kemp, who preferred to remain at Fitchburg. At the age of eight-and-seventy years, Benjamin Kemp closed his earthly career at Acworth, where also his wife died, in the ninety-second year of her age.<sup>1</sup>

## XI

JOHN REED KEMP OF THE FOURTH  
GENERATION

JOHN REED, the second son of Benjamin and Judith Reed Kemp, born in Chelmsford on May 19, 1766, was seven months under full age when, on October 19, 1786, he and Hannah, daughter of Benjamin and Hannah Wheeler of Pepperell, were married. After the termination of the War of the Revolution, a stress of poverty, consequent upon the continued depreciation of Continental paper money and the general and prolonged stagnation of business in the heavily taxed States, was acutely felt by all classes, and it was only by the utmost frugality and their rigid effort that many of the sires and sons of that gloomy period were barely able to provide themselves and families with food and clothing until "better times" emancipated them from their straitened

<sup>1</sup> History of Acworth, New Hampshire, by Rev. J. L. Merrill, Acworth, 1869, pp. 232, 233.

circumstances. So exclusive is an immediate contemplation of the distress and suffering existing contemporaneously with a long and expensive war on the part of the readers of chronicles of it that little consideration is given by them to the subsequent evils and afflictions befalling those bearing the weight of a heavier taxation than that of preceding years to liquidate the unpaid expenses of it, and who, at the same time, are obliged to provide for the daily wants of needy households when little money is in circulation and other means for an adequate compensation for labor are temporarily unobtainable, thereby compelling many industriously inclined persons to be idle and in want of the common necessities of life. Probably never again will the people of the United States be afflicted with as great and general poverty as they were during the first and second decades following the close of the first war with England. If John Reed Kemp and his children were alive to recount the different afflictions which they and their kindred were forced to bear as direct consequences of the War of the Revolution, their children's children would doubtless more vividly comprehend the truthfulness of the saying: "These are the times that try men's souls."

From what can be ascertained concerning John Reed and Hannah Wheeler Kemp, it appears that Fitchburg was the place of their residence from the time of their marriage until their decease. The Bible containing the record of their deaths has long been lost, and the dates are no longer remembered by any of their descendants. It seems verifiable that neither he nor she died before the end of the first decade of the nineteenth century.

## XII

## JAMES KEMP OF THE FIFTH GENERATION

JAMES, the third son of John Reed and Hannah Wheeler Kemp, born in Fitchburg on September 21, 1791, remained there until 1817, when he quitted the place to engage in the shoe and boot business in Waterford, Saratoga County, New York. Journeying as he did by stage-coach, he, on the way, was joined by Lyman Garfield, who had been living at Leicester, Addison County, Vermont, and was going thence to make his home in Troy, Rensselaer County, New York. Waterford at that time was the most populous town in Saratoga County, and had about seven hundred inhabitants. The present bridge across the Hudson River, between Waterford and Lansingburgh, was built in 1814, at a cost of twenty thousand dollars.

Not long after establishing himself in business in Waterford, James Kemp formed the acquaintance of Elizabeth, daughter of John and Elizabeth Haggerty, born in Lansingburgh on January 1, 1800, and they were married in the fall of 1818, at the residence of her parents, a two-story frame dwelling standing then on the front part of the lot now on the southwest corner of Second Avenue and Eleventh Street, where now is the home of Albert Powers. Her brother was a well-known and popular captain of a sloop, which before the close of the last century had sailed for a number of years between Lansingburgh and New York City, carrying freight and

passengers. The site of the Haggerty homestead is now marked by a tall elm, spreading its branches not far from the southeast corner of Albert Powers's residence.

While James Kemp was engaged in business in Waterford, Mrs. Emma Willard came there from Vermont, and opened, in 1819, a girls' school in a vacant building, previously Samuel Demarest's tavern, afterwards the site of the Morgan House, on Broad Street, which she conducted until she, in 1821, established the Troy Female Seminary, in Troy, New York, on the west side of Second Street, between Congress and Ferry streets, in the large brick building originally known as Moulton's Coffee-house or Inn. As many of the pupils of Mrs. Willard's school had been his patrons, James Kemp moved to Troy in 1821, and opened a shoe and boot store at No. 20 Congress Street, near the seminary, where he enjoyed not a little of the patronage of the teachers and boarding pupils of the flourishing institution. In the spring of 1829 he changed his place of business to a building then numbered 132 Fifth Street. In the following year he began taking contracts for paving, and followed that business until 1862. His wife died on December 5, 1835, at their residence. He survived her thirty-three years, dying on August 30, 1869, having, during the last years of his life, made his home at that of his son William, No. 62 North Second Street.

In announcing James Kemp's death as that of an old citizen, the Troy "Daily Times" remarked: "His name has been in every Troy City Directory published. He pursued the even tenor of his way through life, and died respected by all who knew him."

## XIII

WILLIAM KEMP OF THE SIXTH  
GENERATION

WILLIAM, the second son of James and Elizabeth Kemp, was born in Troy, Rensselaer County, New York, on January 14, 1829. His parents, brother, and two sisters were then living in a two-story frame dwelling, No. 20 Congress Street, standing on the western part of the site of the Troy Club building, on the southwest corner of First and Congress streets.

In May that year the first directory of Troy was published. As disclosed by the "Brief Narrative of the Origin and Growth of the City," prefacing the unpretentious duodecimo, the population of Troy was, at that time, 10,840. "The increase during the last five or six years," remarks the writer of it, "exceeds by more than half that of any equal time preceding. For this it is indebted to the opening of the Grand [Erie] Canal, whose beneficent waters reached the Hudson in 1824. Troy has reaped some share of the boundless benefits diffused by that great undertaking, as it has opened her markets, in some measure, to the immense regions of the West, from which they had previously been almost entirely excluded. . . .

"The stores being generally confined to River Street, nearly all the business is transacted there, and hence the remainder of the city exhibits the tranquil aspect and noiseless quiet, which are seldom found but in the coun-

try. . . . Two streams [the Poesten and Wynants kills], which afford an immense quantity of water-power, empty into the Hudson within its limits. They already move the machinery of a number of large flouring-mills, and of several very extensive iron, cotton, and woollen manufacturing establishments. The public buildings in Troy consist of nine places of public worship [First and Second Presbyterian, St. Paul's Episcopal, First Particular Baptist, Friends, State Street and Albia Methodist, St. Peter's Roman Catholic, and First Universalist churches], two banks [the Farmers' Bank and the Bank of Troy], a female seminary, an infant school-house, a Lancasterian school-house, three markets, a gaol, and some others of minor importance. . . . The foundations of a new courthouse have been laid, and contracts for its completion entered into, which it is said will be worthy of the place. The stores upon the bank of the Hudson have commodious docks in their rear, with sufficient depth of water, and there is still space for many more, as well as for a great extension of the place in every direction.

"An elegant and secure steamboat for the carriage of passengers, the *Chief Justice Marshall*, leaves Troy two or three times every week for New York. Another, the *New London*, is employed as a tow-boat, and carries to and from that city an immense quantity of freight and many passengers. About eighty sloops and other craft are engaged in the business of transportation, principally between these two cities, and several schooners ply regularly between Troy and Boston.

"The trade of Troy supports four newspapers [the Troy "Budget," the "Farmer's Register," the Troy

"Sentinel," and the Troy "Republican"], two of which are semi-weekly and two weekly."

The North Market was on the south side of Federal Street, where now is the Hugh Ranken Steam Fire-engine house, the Centre Market, on the northwest corner of Third and State streets, where now is the Arba Read Steam Fire-engine house, and the South Market, on the southwest corner of Second and Division streets.

What may be called the compactly built part of the city lay between Jacob Street on the north and Washington Street on the south. Beyond Sixth Street, on the east side, only a few buildings had been erected as far as the rise of the high land. The Tibbits mansion, now the Day Home, was then a conspicuous building at the head of Congress Street. A few widely separated dwellings stood along the River Road, north of the Hoosick Road, now Hoosick Street. The only building of special note between Troy and Lansingburgh at that time was the Rensselaer School, which edifice, originally the Farmers' Bank, was a prominent landmark, standing on the northwest corner of River and Middleburgh streets. South of the Poesten Kill, as far as the Wyanants Kill, along the Greenbush Road, fewer than ten buildings were in view from Mount Ida.

This hasty survey of Troy, incorporated a city in 1816, presents the principal features of the place at the time of William Kemp's birth. Many of them still stand distinct in the foreground of the recollections of his boyhood. As the horizon of his life widened, the circumstances and associations of his youth began to give character to his thoughts and strength to the forces of his individuality.

With tentative wisdom he sought, at the age of twelve years, to discover the particular calling which he was best fitted to pursue with satisfying evidences of success.

Being offered an initiatory position in his cousin Edwin Kemp's store at Watertown, New York, he began obtaining there a rudimentary knowledge of drugs and medicines in 1841. A strong love of home, however, brought him back to Troy in 1842. In the fall of 1843 he undertook to acquire, in the printing establishment of the Troy "Daily Post," the art of type-setting, at a wage of seventy-five cents a week. Although having with pains-taking zeal attained a commendable proficiency as a compositor, the remuneration was too inadequate to be advantageous to his interests, and in the following year he accepted the position of a clerk in a River Street crockery-store, with a weekly stipend of one dollar and fifty cents. Merchandising he found was not to his liking, and he essayed to discover his aptitude for a mechanical craft. His overtures to Charles F. Mann, a steam-engine builder and brass-founder engaged in business at No. 17 North Third Street, placed him in a position which soon disclosed to him an industrial calling for which he had a strong natural bent and also a satisfying preference. As a consequence the ambitious young Trojan saw, in May, 1847, his name printed for the first time in a Troy directory: "Kemp, William, brass founder, b. [boarding] 17 North Second."

In 1848 he accepted a position in the machine works established on Green Island, where he diligently applied himself to gain the experience and skill of a practical mechanist.

While foreman of the works, he, in the twenty-second year of his age, plighted troth with Rebecca, the daughter of John and Mary Cantrell of Troy, where they, on December 22, 1850, were joined in the bonds of holy matrimony. They resided on Green Island until the spring of 1851. Thereafter they dwelt in Troy, the birthplace of their five children, three sons and two daughters.

In 1851 Ezra S. Howard, who early in the present century had a copper and tin smithery on the southeast corner of the alley on Ferry Street, between Second and Third streets, and had, about the year 1825, established a small plant on the west side of North Third Street, between Federal and Jacob streets, known as the Troy Bell Foundry, was still in business at the last-named place. In the fall of that year William Kemp and Ozni Pearson, under the firm-name of William Kemp & Company, rented the property and engaged there in the manufacture of brass castings. In the following year William Kemp succeeded to the business, which by his individual enterprise and competitive energy speedily acquired prominence as one of Troy's flourishing industries. He purchased the property in 1856, and called the plant the Troy Brass Foundry, which name it still retains. About the year 1878 he took his eldest son, James, into partnership with him, under the name of William Kemp & Son, Brass-founders. Since the death of James Kemp, in 1890, the business has been continued under the same title, the estate of the deceased son being represented under the term "company."

About the year 1853 William Kemp became a mem-

ber of the Troy Citizens' Corps, an independent military company, locally famous, organized in 1835. His connection with it was not of long continuance, yet he acquired considerable knowledge of the use of arms and company evolutions from instructions voluntarily given the corps by Lieutenant George L. Willard, a member of the staff of Major-General John E. Wool.

By a charter granted on June 4, 1842, by the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York, King Solomon's Primitive Lodge, No. 91, was duly instituted on August 11, that year, in Troy. On March 16, 1854, the first degree of masonry was conferred upon William Kemp by King Solomon's Primitive Lodge in its room in the Masonic Hall, then in the building on the northwest corner of the alley, between First and State streets, where, on March 23, he received the second degree, and, on April 23, became a Master Mason.

The public career of William Kemp in the field of municipal politics began six years after he had attained his majority, or, more definitely, on Saturday evening, March 3, 1855, when he was nominated, by the members of the Whig Party residing in the Second Ward of Troy, their candidate for school commissioner. It was his good fortune to be elected after a day's canvass, on Tuesday, March 6, the day of the city's charter election, by a majority of five votes, he having received 319, and his Democratic opponent, Isaac N. Haight, 314. The same office, remarkable as it seems, was held by him sixteen successive years, and the presidency of the Board

of Education from March 14, 1860, to March 13, 1871. On March 6, 1872, at the last meeting of the Board of Education attended by him as a member, the following commendatory resolution was unanimously adopted:

*"Resolved*, That as William Kemp, Commissioner of the Fourth Ward, is about retiring from the Board, an expression of the thanks of the Commissioners, as well as those of the citizens of Troy in general, are due him, as a public benefactor; and further, that the Board feels it due him to express in a public manner its approbation of the course of Mr. Kemp, during the time he presided over it, as always fair and impartial; and that the Board as a public body, will deeply feel the loss of his services and wise counsels."

On August 20, 1857, William Kemp became a volunteer fireman of the city of Troy by joining Trojan Hook and Ladder Company No. 3, with which he was thereafter actively identified until October 6, 1864, when he withdrew from it by resignation. On December 20, 1860, he was elected a member of Steam Fire-engine Company No. 2, which, on April 1, 1861, was reorganized as Hugh Ranken Steam Fire-engine Company No. 2, from which he withdrew on October 3, 1861, by resignation. The personal interest which he publicly but unostentatiously exhibited in his coöperation in obtaining for the company the first steam fire-engine it possessed is thus particularized by the author of the history of "The Firemen and Fire Department of Troy":

"An enterprising citizen, having previously intimated that he would furnish the money for the purchase of a steam fire-engine by Eagle Engine Company No. 10,

and a number of the prominent members of the company having critically inspected the working of the steamer 'Amoskeag No. 2,' exhibited at the Rensselaer County Agricultural and Manufacturers' Society fair, held on the grounds of the Society, at Troy, on September 27 and 28, 1860, on September 27, that year, accordingly contracted for the delivery of the engine to the company. In the evening, they and other members of the company marched to the fair grounds, headed by a band of music, and returned with the engine to the company's house, No. 14 Federal Street. When the agent wrote of his coming to Troy, on October 11, to receive the money promised him, the citizen who had proffered to help the company in paying for it had met with a reverse in his business, and was unable to afford the desired assistance. Hugh Ranken, who had been confirmed a member of the company on April 5, 1860, on learning the financial embarrassment of the company in meeting the contract, acquainted Jared S. Weed, Jacob Jacobs, Thomas Symonds, William Kemp, Roger A. Flood, William Gurley, George B. Smith, George H. Phillips, Hiram Miller, William Eddy, and Ozni Pearson with the fact, and they and he severally gave their individual notes for one hundred dollars, aggregating \$1200, which were discounted at the Manufacturers' Bank."

The organization of the third Protestant Episcopal church in the city was accomplished on December 3, 1836, when it was incorporated under the title of "The Rector, Wardens, and Vestrymen of Christ Church in the city of Troy." The erection of the church, standing on the west side of Fifth Avenue, between Bridge

Avenue and Jacob Street, was undertaken in the spring of 1838. The octagonal edifice was consecrated on June 1, 1839. In 1867 the building was renovated and enlarged, and in 1882 the interior was repainted and refurnished.

During the incumbency of the Rev. James Mulchahey as rector of Christ Church, William Kemp, then residing at No. 41 North Second Street (now Fifth Avenue), began attending services conducted in that edifice. On Easter Monday, April 25, 1859, he was elected one of the vestrymen of Christ Church. His zealous efforts to promote its interests and his generous contributions to advance its benefits were in harmony with his religious principles and reverent faith. On April 2, 1877, he was chosen junior warden, and on March 29, 1880, senior warden, in which last-named office he still serves the congregation with marked acceptableness.

At the outbreak of the Civil War no citizen was more energetic in his efforts to strengthen the defensive power of the national government than he. In those memorable first days of local activity to hasten the departure of the Second Regiment of New York State Volunteers for the seat of war, he patriotically sacrificed his time and generously subscribed money to speed the progress of enrolling volunteers to complete the complements of the ten companies of the battalion which was mustered into the service of the United States on May 14, 1861, and four days later left Troy by water transportation, in the sight of a multitude of cheering and weeping people.

Knowing the fitness and trustworthiness of William Kemp, his Excellency, E. D. Morgan, governor of the State of New York, appointed him, on June 7, 1861,

paymaster to the Second Regiment, New York State Volunteers, which office he filled until the United States government ordered the discharge of all the paymasters of volunteer regiments in national service.

The return of the valorous survivors of the Second Regiment of New York State Volunteers to Troy, on May 14, 1863, after two years of active service, was made a memorable occasion of rejoicing by the patriotic citizens. William Kemp, having been delegated by the Common Council to escort the battalion from Jersey City homeward, went there with Doring's Band, and was received with many hearty expressions of delight by the officers and men of the regiment, who, having discovered the band by the welcoming music quickly heard by them, leaped from the cars and ran eagerly to where it was stationed, and, grasping the hands of the waiting representative of the people of Troy, elicited from him the purpose of his unexpected presence there at that time. The three hundred and eighty-six men then composing the regiment arrived at Troy on the following morning on the steamboat *Vanderbilt*.

As admirably related by William Kemp, he discovered an aged woman distressedly weeping on the wharf where the soldiers were disembarking. Sympathetically questioning her, he learned that she was the mother of one who had been falsely reported as killed in the battle at Chancellorsville, on the 2d of May, the last engagement in which the regiment had participated before returning home. He immediately turned toward the *Vanderbilt* and pointed to her son, who was standing by the taffrail, waving his cap to gain his mother's recog-

niton. The sight of the stalwart sun-embrowned soldier lovingly clasping his venerable, happy mother to his broad breast is still tenderly cherished by William Kemp as one of the most touching incidents of that joyful occasion.

The Mutual National Bank of Troy, organized, on March 23, 1865, with a capital of \$250,000, succeeded to the business of the Mutual Bank of Troy, organized on November 24, 1852, under the general banking law of the State of New York, with a capital of \$200,000. Having been a holder of part of the stock of the Mutual National Bank since its institution, William Kemp was chosen one of its directors on May 3, 1865. His efficiency as a director led to his election as vice-president of the bank on January 12, 1876, from which position he was advanced to that of president on July 17, 1878, to which office he has since been annually elected. His sound judgment, prudent counsels, and financial ability have been important and long recognized factors of the successful administration of the prosperous institution.

On March 7, 1865, William Kemp, then a Union candidate, was elected an alderman to represent the people of the Fourth Ward in the Common Council for two years, receiving 364 votes, and his Democratic opponent, L. H. Button, 187. Two votes were also cast in the ward for J. D. Green. The force of his expressed views concerning the most advantageous action to be taken by that body to benefit the people of Troy and further the growth of the city's industries had not only great cogency with the aldermen of his own party but also influenced largely the Democratic members. As a

judicious and practical legislator, William Kemp in the deliberations of the Common Council was unexcelled.

On May 10, 1865, having received an urgent invitation from Major-General Joseph B. Carr to visit his military headquarters at Fort Pocahontas, on the James River, and to bring with him such relatives and friends as might be pleased to accompany him, William Kemp made known this request to his wife, Mrs. Robert Morris, John B. Gale, Esq., De Witt Tuthill, William H. Young, and James C. Spencer, who were delighted to have an opportunity of visiting the distinguished officer. The party left Troy on Monday evening, May 12, 1865, on board the steamboat *Vanderbilt*, and went from New York City by train to Baltimore, and thence by the steamboat *Adelaide* to Fortress Monroe, and thence to Norfolk, where they found Major-General Carr waiting to welcome them. From there, by the propeller *Iron-sides*, they were conveyed up the James River to Fort Pocahontas. Favored by ideal weather, they visited on successive days many historical sites along the banks of the Upper James, viewed not a few fields of noted battles, beheld the tumuli of the forts and earthworks around City Point and Petersburg and at Bermuda Hundred, and rambled about the streets of Richmond and inspected Libby Prison, the Capitol, and other buildings of renown in the city. From Fort Pocahontas they returned homeward by way of Fortress Monroe and Washington. The enjoyed incidents of their visit are interestingly described in a "Journal of the Excursion" written by William H. Young, which, in 1871, was attractively printed, making an octavo of fifty-nine pages.

On the retirement, in 1865, of N. J. Rockwell as a co-partner of Joseph B. Carr in the proprietorship of the American Chain Cable Works, established by them that year on the bank of the Hudson River, between Douw Street and Smith Avenue, in the northern part of the city, William Kemp and De Witt Tuthill became associated with Joseph B. Carr, under the continued firm-name of J. B. Carr & Company. On the death of De Witt Tuthill on March 4, 1886, Joseph B. Carr and William Kemp continued manufacturing extensively chains and cables at the original plant under the same firm-name. Major-General Joseph B. Carr's death, on February 24, 1895, having dissolved the partnership, the ownership of the works passed by conveyance to the J. B. Carr Company, organized on February 15, 1896, when William Kemp, Jr., was elected president of the company and his father one of its directors.

The Ionic Club, organized on August 27, 1853, for the promotion of good-fellowship and social enjoyment, has for many years had its rooms on the second floor of the building known as No. 1 First Street. William Kemp became a member of the club on December 1, 1865, and was elected one of its trustees in the years 1873, 1874, and 1875.

Under an act of Legislature passed April 2, 1850, the Troy and Lansingburgh Railroad Company was organized, on February 19, 1861, by the election of its first officers. The Common Council of the city of Troy having, on August 20, 1860, granted permission for the construction of a single-track railway extending from the Wynants Kill to the north bounds of Troy, the building

of the road was begun on Monday afternoon, July 15, 1861. A small car, drawn by a horse and provided with a fare-box, began running on the road on August 29, that year. The completion of the road in 1862 was an event of considerable local importance and highly gratifying to the people of Troy, as the construction of the street railway was accomplished before the city of Albany had one. On October 10, 1863, the Troy and Cohoes Railroad Company's line began to be operated, and in November, 1866, a part of that of the Troy and Albia Horse Railway Company, and on August 18, 1880, that of the Lansingburgh and Cohoes Railroad Company, and on August 20, 1884, that of the Waterford and Cohoes Railroad Company. William Kemp became financially interested as a stockholder in the management of the Troy and Lansingburgh Railroad on May 1, 1867, and on January 14, 1869, became one of its directors. Elected vice-president of the company on January 15, 1873, he became *ex officio* a member of its executive committee. His well-known administrative ability led to his election as president of the company on January 10, 1877, which office he held until his resignation of it on June 14, 1887, when Charles Cleminshaw became his successor. The Troy and Albia Horse Railway Company having, at a special term of the State Supreme Court, on June 20, 1891, been granted the right to change its name and style itself the Troy City Railway Company, later acquired the management of the Troy and Lansingburgh Railroad Company's line and the lines of the three other named companies through leases to the Troy and Lansingburgh

Railroad Company. By the consolidation of the Albany Street Railway Company, the Watervliet Turnpike and Railroad Company, and the Troy City Railway Company, the organization of the United Traction Company was effected on December 30, 1899. The personal connection of William Kemp with it as a stockholder, a director, and a member of its executive committee is justly regarded by the citizens of Troy as a satisfying assurance that his judicious oversight of its affairs will continue to inure to the advantage of the city in many appreciable ways.

The Rensselaer School, founded in Troy on November 5, 1824, by Stephen Van Rensselaer, the last but one of the successive patroons of Rensselaerswyck, "for teaching physical sciences with their application to the arts of life," which, by an act of Legislature passed on April 26, 1832, had its name changed to that of the Rensselaer Institute, was, on April 8, 1861, by another legislative enactment, styled and incorporated under the title of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. In 1868 William Kemp was elected one of its twenty trustees, and has been every subsequent year.

The nomination of William Kemp by the members of the Republican party in Troy as their candidate for mayor elicited from the Troy "Daily Times" the following editorial commendation of him on March 6, 1871: "Among the citizens of Troy, Mr. Kemp is not an unknown nor an untried man. For a number of years he has been President of the Board of Education. He has been the intelligent, progressive, earnest, laborious friend of our schools. He has evinced rare executive abilities

in the administration of the duties of that position. He is thoroughly acquainted with the affairs of the city, and is prepared to assume their management to the advantage of our citizens. He has been the staunch friend of the commercial and business interests of Troy. He is identified with them now, and the public interests can be intrusted to him with a confident assurance that they will find in him an honest and intelligent official who will support them firmly and with tact and efficiency on all occasions. Troy will honor and serve itself by the election of Mr. Kemp for its mayor."

The Democratic candidate for the office was the Hon. Thomas B. Carroll. The defeat of William Kemp, as was publicly alleged, was secured by illegal voting and ballot-box stuffing on March 7, known as Troy's charter election day, he receiving 3599 votes, and his opponent 6231. The friends of William Kemp, however, lost no faith in their power to elect him two years later. Having obtained his permission to nominate him again a candidate for mayor, they, on Thursday evening, February 27, 1873, in convention at the court-house, placed him before the people for election to that office. In announcing the candidature, the Troy "Daily Times" pertinently remarked:

"The Republican Convention to nominate a City Ticket did well. It presented a ticket for the electors of the city which ought to command a strenuous and wide support, and which ought to be triumphantly elected. The chief officer to be chosen is the mayor. If the right man should be elected, a great deal will be accomplished towards giving the people of the city the kind of govern-

ment they require. William Kemp is the right man. His character for integrity is above reproach. He is a man who has made his own way in life from an humble position to an honored one. He has shown in various positions conspicuous executive capacity."

The nominee of the Democratic party was William Ingram. As confidently predicted by the sanguine Republicans, William Kemp was elected, on March 4, 1873, mayor of the city of Troy for two years, receiving 4318 votes, and the Democratic candidate 3971. This gratifying victory of the Republicans was quickly announced to waiting throngs of William Kemp's friends and acquaintances. As related by the Troy "Daily Whig" on the following morning, "Sullivan's Band was called out, a procession was formed in front of Colonel Egolf's rooms, on First Street, and the residence of the mayor-elect, No. 62 North Second Street, was visited. The mayor's mansion was crowded with his numerous friends who shook him jubilantly by the hand. After the band had played 'Hail to the Chief,' and the crowd had repeatedly cheered and called for his appearance outdoors, he came to the doorway with Judge Gilbert Robertson, junior, who, in a few congratulatory remarks, introduced him to the enthusiastic Republicans crowded in the street and on the sidewalks. Mr. Kemp then spoke: 'Brother Republicans and my Democratic friends: We have fought the battle and you have gained the victory. I have not words to express to you my deep gratification for the honor you have conferred upon me. The office of mayor is a responsible one, and I shall endeavor to perform its duties with credit to the city and to myself. I shall

labor for the citizens of Troy. I intend to be mayor of the whole city and not of any clique. I trust I may have your support in my efforts, and I hope I can reflect credit upon the position to which you have seen fit to elect me. Again I thank you for your kind greeting and bid you good night.'"

He entered upon the discharge of his duties as mayor on May 11, 1873. He appointed as his private secretary Henry B. Harvey, and as his messenger Frank Nugent. His first message to the Common Council bears date of March 20, 1873. His contemporaries in municipal positions were John P. Albertson, comptroller, George C. Burdett, chamberlain, and Roswell A. Parmenter, city attorney. As mayor he was *ex officio* president of the Board of Police Commissioners, president of the Board of Fire Commissioners, chairman of the Board of Health, chairman of the Contracting Board, a commissioner of the Funded Debt of the city, a director of the Troy Savings Bank, a director of the Troy Union Railroad Company, a governor of the Marshall Infirmary, a trustee of the Troy Female Seminary, and a trustee of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Having won the general commendation of the citizens, without distinction of party, by his upright, able, and impartial administration of the laws and affairs of the city, he, at the end of his term of office, transferred to his successor, Edward Murphy, Jr., elected mayor of Troy on March 2, 1875, all the municipal possessions in his keeping.

The Troy Female Seminary, instituted in 1821 by Mrs. Emma Willard, had its rise and growth in buildings

belonging to the city of Troy until 1872. At that time its affairs were in charge of a Board of Trustees, of which William Kemp had been one since 1868. The honored founder having died on Friday, April 15, 1870, he and the other twelve trustees attended her funeral as selected bearers on the following Tuesday, when, after befitting services at noon in St. Paul's Episcopal Church, her remains were interred in Oakwood Cemetery. The trustees, in 1871, desiring to be less restricted in the management of the affairs of the institution, determined to take such action as might place them in possession of the property. They, therefore, appointed from their number William Gurley, William Kemp, and Joseph W. Fuller a committee to solicit the municipal authorities to convey it to the Board of Trustees. The committee, on February 1, 1872, presented to the Common Council the formal request of the trustees and a memorial signed by nine hundred and eighty citizens favoring the transfer of the property. The declared unwillingness of the Common Council to comply with the request of the trustees made them tender the city through William Gurley, on June 6, 1872, the sum of \$50,000 for the grounds and buildings. This ample consideration was acceptable to the Common Council, which thereupon passed a resolution to convey the property to the seminary's trustees on the payment to the city of \$50,000, on or before May 1, 1873, and duly authorized the mayor to execute the conveyance. On June 12, 1872, the Hon. Thomas B. Carroll officially signed an agreement setting forth the condition that the property was "to be used only for school purposes." A subscription

paper was at once circulated among the citizens to obtain the required money. Little progress was made in getting subscriptions until William Gurley undertook the task of personally obtaining them. He later was assisted by Lewis E. Gurley, his brother, and they finally succeeded, by indefatigable exertions, in securing the sum of \$52,615.17, ranging in subscriptions from four dollars to five thousand. On May 1, 1873, a check, signed by W. & L. E. Gurley, payable at the National Exchange Bank of Troy to the order of William Kemp, mayor of the city of Troy, put the Board of Trustees of the Troy Female Seminary in full possession of the property.

Having for thirty-two successive years been a trustee of the celebrated institution, William Kemp's participation in the management of its affairs has been highly conducive to its interests as a school for the higher education of young women and to its possession of new, large, and well-adapted buildings, and of such apparatus as the funds of the seminary were adequate to provide.

By that dire malady heart-disease William Kemp was suddenly bereft of the loving companionship of his estimable wife, on Tuesday, August 27, 1872. Her funeral, on the following Saturday morning, was attended by a large concourse of mourning relatives, sorrowing friends, and acquaintances. The Rev. J. N. Mulford, rector of Christ Church, conducted the services in the church and at the grave, and the Rev. Eaton W. Maxcy, his predecessor, then rector of St. John's Church, Bridgeport, Connecticut, in a brief but memorable discourse feelingly remarked the sweetness and tenderness of the deceased wife and mother, and the charming traits

of her Christian character. The sincerity of her friendship and the unostentatiousness of her manners imbued all who knew her with a high appreciation of the nobility of her soul. The presence of the Rev. Thomas W. Coit, D.D., LL.D., rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, that of the Rev. Richard Adams, the assistant minister of St. Paul's, that of the Rev. George Shinn, rector of St. Luke's, and that of the Rev. James Caird, assistant minister of St. John's, and their participation in the last solemn rites of the Church, were also significant of the esteem in which Mrs. Kemp was held by the clergy of the city. Her remains were interred in Troy's beautiful necropolis, Oakwood Cemetery. In 1882, when the chancel of Christ Church was refurnished, the surviving daughter and three sons of Mrs. Rebecca Kemp, in loving memory of their departed mother, gave the church the elaborately carved altar now seen in the chancel.

The organization of the Citizens' Steamboat Company of Troy, with a capital stock of \$250,000, was actively advanced on January 22, 1872, by the election of thirteen directors, and their signing on February 19, that year, the articles of association. The steamboat *City of Troy*, built for the company, made its initial appearance at the Broadway landing on June 15, 1876, and the *Saratoga*, also built for the company, on June 13, 1877. Since the organization of the Citizens' Steamboat Company, William Kemp has been one of its stockholders and directors. On November 21, 1898, he was elected president of the company for the unexpired term of Joseph Cornell, who had been its president since 1872. On January 19, 1899, Charles M. Englis of New York was

elected to succeed William Kemp, and is still serving the company in that office.

On September 16, 1873, William Kemp wedded Martha Ella, the amiable and accomplished daughter of David and Catharine Bogert of Troy. They occupied their attractive home, No. 62 North Second Street (later known as 2174 Fifth Avenue), between Bridge Avenue and Jacob Street, until 1895, when, in the fall of that year, they moved into their new and handsome residence, No. 65 Second Street, between Congress and State streets. When, in 1882, the interior of Christ Church was refurnished, Mrs. Kemp generously contributed the elegant reredos now enriching the chancel.

The Troy Citizens' Gas-Light Company, incorporated on May 19, 1875, erected that year a plant, for the manufacture of illuminating gas, on the east side of Vail (now Sixth) Avenue, between Canal Street (now Ingalls Avenue) and Glen Avenue. Having been one of the first holders of its stock, William Kemp was elected vice-president of the company on June 11, 1879, and, on August 13, that year, president of the highly prosperous corporation, and was continued in that official position until October 11, 1889, when the Troy Citizens' Gas-Light Company and the Troy Gas-Light Company (the latter having been chartered on February 16, 1848) were consolidated under the name of the Troy Gas Company. Since October 14, 1889, William Kemp has been vice-president of it.

The Troy Association for the Relief of Destitute Children, organized on October 22, 1833, had its name changed, on December 17, 1834, to that of the Troy

Orphan Asylum. By the legislative act incorporating the institution, passed on April 10, 1835, the management of its estate and affairs was intrusted to a board of twenty-one trustees. Elected in 1876 a trustee of the asylum, William Kemp has for twenty-eight years commendably participated in the administration of its affairs.

By an act of legislature passed April 17, 1863, providing for the care and supervision of an asylum for aged indigent women under the auspices of the Protestant Episcopal churches in the city, and styling the institution "The Church Home of the City of Troy," the management of its interests was conferred upon a board of fifteen trustees. From 1877 to 1886 William Kemp was one of the trustees of the well-known institution.

The Troy and Boston Railroad Company, originally named the Troy and Greenfield Railroad Company, dispatched the first passenger-train passing over its road from Boston, by way of Fitchburg, on October 13, 1875. William Kemp was for many years as a stockholder interested in its affairs, and was, from January 15, 1880, to May 2, 1887, one of its directors. By the consolidation of the Troy and Boston Railroad Company and the Fitchburg Railroad Company, under the name of the Fitchburg Railroad Company, in 1887, the last-named corporation, on May 2, that year, took possession of the Troy and Boston Railroad, under the agreement of their consolidation.

Governed by a desire to perpetuate the memory of the valorous services of the men who during the Civil War went from Rensselaer County and served in the

army and navy for the preservation of the Union of the States, William Kemp enthusiastically took part in the organization of the Rensselaer County Soldiers and Sailors' Monument Association, which was incorporated on November 12, 1886, "to secure a site and erect thereon a suitable monument" in their honor. At the election of the first officers of the association, on November 29, that year, he was chosen its treasurer. On Decoration Day, Friday, May 30, 1890, the corner-stone of the monument was laid in Washington Square in the presence of a large concourse of veteran soldiers and sailors and the members of the different military organizations of the city, preceded and followed by the singing of dedicatory and patriotic hymns by an assemblage of five hundred school-children. On that day the subscriptions and the sum appropriated for the erection of the monument aggregated \$50,538.81. The granite monument, ninety-three feet in height and surmounted with a bronze statue—"The Call to Arms"—thirteen feet tall, is an attractive and conspicuous feature of the city.

A half-century ago, Benjamin Marshall, a wealthy manufacturer of gingham and other cotton goods, in mills erected by him on the north bank of the Poesten Kill, near Mount Ida Falls, purposing to provide a retreat for feeble-minded and diseased people, founded the infirmary now bearing his name. The institution was incorporated on June 20, 1851, as the Marshall Infirmary in the City of Troy. The direction of its affairs was intrusted to twenty annually elected persons known as its governors. Since 1886 William Kemp has yearly been chosen one.

One of the largest manufacturing plants established in the city is that recently belonging to the Troy Steel and Iron Company, incorporated on September 1, 1885, with a capital of \$2,500,000. The brick buildings of the four separately operated works then possessed by the company, which if connectedly aligned would extend more than the length of a mile, were fitted with the latest improved machinery and appurtenances. The works were the development of what in the first decade of this century was called the Albany Rolling and Slitting Mill, built by John Brinckerhoff & Company in 1807, on the Wynants Kill. In September, 1885, the Troy Steel and Iron Company began erecting on Breaker Island, lying in the Hudson River, several hundred feet south of the mouth of the Wynants Kill and nearly opposite the company's steel-works, three large blast-furnaces, one of which was put in blast in May, 1887. The first transfer by ferry-boat, from the furnaces to the steel-works, of molten metal for conversion into steel, was successfully accomplished on October 27, 1890. In the summer of 1896 the Troy Steel Company succeeded the Troy Steel and Iron Company, and having improved the plant on Breaker Island, began operating it, the steel-works on the east bank of the river being then abandoned. William Kemp, being a large holder of the stock of the Troy Steel and Iron Company, was elected, in 1887, its vice-president, which office he held until the Troy Steel Company took charge of the works in 1896, when he was chosen one of the directors of the new company.

At a public meeting held in the Common Council

Chamber, in the City Hall, on Friday evening, December 14, 1888, William Kemp was appointed one of the hundred representative men of Troy to make arrangements for the celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of naming the place Troy. The commemorative acts projected by the committee began on Wednesday evening, January 2, 1889, with a concert of vocal and instrumental music at Music Hall, followed on Thursday and Friday afternoons and evenings with historical addresses at the same place, and ended on Saturday with a procession in the morning, and a parade, an illumination, and fire-works in the evening. Restricted exclusively to the citizens, the celebration was accomplished without the aid or participation of people living outside the bounds of Troy. In all its features the celebration of the centennial anniversary of the naming of Troy was highly enjoyable, creditable, and memorable. As a memento of it, a hundred bronze medals, picturing on one side the village as it was in 1789, and on the other the seal of the city in 1889, were struck by the order of the committee and severally issued to the members.

A circular addressed to the press and people of the United States of America was issued on February 5, 1896, by a number of prominent and patriotic citizens of Chicago, suggesting that on the following anniversary of the birth of George Washington the people of all the cities and towns of the Union "make that day even more glorious, by inaugurating a movement for cementing all the English-speaking people of the world in peace and fraternal unity." The action of the people was requested to be taken on the following questions:

"1. Do we wish the governments of the United States and Great Britain, by formal treaty, to establish arbitration as the method of concluding all differences, which may fail of settlement by diplomacy between the two powers?"

"2. What is our opinion of war as a mode of deciding controversies between the United States and Great Britain?"

The declarations of the people, when formally made, were to be transmitted to the President of the United States of America and to her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain. The citizens of Philadelphia, New York, Boston, San Francisco, New Orleans, Baltimore, Washington, and other places responded favorably, and as a consequence nearly three hundred gentlemen, representing thirty-six States and one Territory, attended the meetings of the National Arbitration Conference, held in Washington, D. C., on April 22 and 23, 1896. The representatives from Troy were Judge Charles R. Ingalls, William Kemp, and Charles E. Patterson, Esq. The proceedings of the notable conference and many of the addresses of the distinguished and eminent delegates were printed under the title of "The American Conference on International Arbitration," making an octavo volume of two hundred and forty-seven pages.

In 1899, with a modest desire to add a contribution to the attractive monumental features of Oakwood Cemetery, William Kemp had a classically proportioned mausoleum erected in the northeastern part of the spacious grounds that command an extensive prospect of the diversified scenery of the Upper Hudson Valley

with an immediate foreground view of the several mouths of the Mohawk River and the mist-draped Cohoes Falls. The soft outlines of the antiquesly designed gray granite structure are extremely pleasing to the eye, while the open ironwork of the door of the crypt is highly artistic and unobtrusively elaborate.

From these interesting particulars of William Kemp's career it is not difficult to draw just and definite inferences concerning his traits of character, reputation, influence, and proclivities. Frugal, and yet not parsimonious, he assiduously applied his energies in early manhood to gain a creditable position as a successful manufacturer. Having acquired a gratifying competence, he began investing his surplus income in prominent local enterprises, a proceeding always regarded as exemplifying good citizenship, and probably yielding him more substantial returns than any of those popular Western enterprises which certain men of wealth in Troy were contemporaneously induced to believe were more profitable. Inasmuch as such outlays of money only justify mention here as instancing his steadfast adherence to principles assertive of his purpose of making Troy the seat of his investments, his benefactions, on the other hand, whether secular or religious, have never been selfishly restricted to the city and its institutions. His philanthropy, although often manifested by gifts of money, has as frequently been expressed by immediate tenders of assistance and personal services that have won the enduring gratitude and lasting remembrance of many men and women whom he has befriended in days of crying want and dire distress.

The long series of years marking his service as a member of the Board of Education were fruitful in experiences that obviously gave him a clear and comprehensive understanding of the benefits dispensed by the public schools of the city. He is a strong and intelligent advocate of the education of children in graded schools, and no less an earnest and eloquent espouser of the local claims of the Troy Female Seminary upon the people of Troy and its vicinity. The eleemosynary institutions in the city have always had his support by frequent and generous monetary contributions.

His municipal and other public offices have thrown him into contact with all classes and conditions of men, enabling him to become a keen discerner of their merits and demerits, but not making him uncharitable or consequential in his opinions concerning them. He has ever been a faithful and a representative churchman, efficiently discharging such duties as were his as a member and officer of Christ Church and as a frequent delegate to diocesan conventions. A man of generous sympathies and strong impulses, his attachments as a friend are permanent and loyal, and are not modified by any adversities befalling those endeared to him by long fellowship and mutual affection. Gifted as he is with an excellent memory, he retains with remarkable distinctness the recollection of the peculiarities of people early known by him, which is strikingly illustrated whenever he indulges himself in reminiscences of *lang syne*. He is an entertaining conversationalist, and admirably brightens his social intercourse with pertinent anecdotes and enjoyable incidents. His after-dinner speeches, when called upon

to reply to a given toast, are highly felicitous in expression, being delightfully humorous and sparkling with witticisms.

Governed by the force of his convictions and the admonitions of an enlightened conscience—the beguiling sophistries of demagogues, the projects of scheming politicians, and the glittering interests of disreputable speculators have as yet failed to entice him to depart from a course of conduct and engagements that has hitherto obtained for him the evident respect and good will of the people of Troy.

#### XIV

#### WARS OF THE COLONIAL PERIOD

**D**URING the memorable periods of hostilities known as King Philip's War, Queen Anne's, King William's, King George's, and the French and Indian wars, different members of the New England Kemp families unostentatiously displayed their courage and loyalty with many striking evidences of individual prowess and heroism. No less than twenty-one have historical records of enrolment for service in military companies that valorously fought in bloody engagements with fierce savages and intrepid French soldiers. *Vide*: Colonial Military Service.

## XV

## WAR OF THE REVOLUTION

THE patriotism of the New England Kemps during the eight years' struggle to secure the independence of the thirteen American colonies is notably disclosed by the fact that thirty-six served with no little personal distinction in different provincial and continental regiments either as officers or privates. In the battle at Bunker Hill Joseph Kemp was killed, and David Kemp, while confined as a prisoner in Boston jail, died. Phineas Kemp, in Colonel John Crane's Continental Artillery Regiment, was killed in battle at Monmouth, New Jersey, and Calvin Kemp, in Colonel Rufus Putnam's Fifth Massachusetts Continental Line Regiment, at West Point. *Vide*: Revolutionary War Service.

## XVI

ENGAGEMENTS AT LEXINGTON  
AND CONCORD

ABOUT two hours before midnight, on Tuesday, the 18th of April, 1775, a detachment of British troops, consisting of grenadiers, light infantry, and marines, in all about eight hundred, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Smith, embarked at Boston in boats, and landed at Lechmere Point, now East Cambridge, immediately west of Charlestown, just as the moon was

rising. To escape discovery, they took a by-path leading to the main road, which obliged them to pass across a stretch of marshy ground and to wade through water. Meanwhile Paul Revere and other Continental patriots were on their way to Lexington, twelve miles northwest of Boston, to apprise the minute-men there of the march thither of the English soldiery and of the intention of the British to destroy the stores deposited at Concord by the provident and arming colonists. The hurried march of the enemy, although then unopposed, was rapidly being made known to the associated patriots living along the western part of the road over which the British troops would soon be passing. Discovering that the colonists had gained knowledge of the march of the force commanded by him, Lieutenant-Colonel Smith "detached six companies of light infantry, under the command of Major John Pitcairn, with orders to press forward and secure the two bridges at Concord, while he sent a messenger to Boston for a reinforcement. Major Pitcairn, as he advanced, succeeded in capturing every one on the road until he arrived within a mile and a half of Lexington meeting house, when Thaddeus Bowman succeeded in eluding the advancing troops, and galloping to the common, gave the first certain intelligence to Captain John Parker of their approach.

"It was then about half-past four o'clock." Captain Parker, commanding the company of Lexington minute-men, "ordered the drum to beat, alarm guns to be fired, and Sergeant William Monroe to form his company in two ranks a few rods north of the meeting-house. It was part of 'the constitutional army,' which was au-

thorized to make a regular and forcible resistance to any open hostility by the British troops; and it was for this purpose that this gallant and devoted band, on this memorable morning, appeared on the field. Whether it ought to maintain its ground, or whether it ought to retreat, would depend upon the bearing and numbers of the regulars. It was not long in suspense. At a short distance from the parade-ground the British officers, regarding the American drum as a challenge, ordered their troops to halt, to prime and load, and then to march forward in double-quick time. Meantime sixty or seventy of the militia had collected, and about forty spectators, a few of whom had arms. Captain Parker ordered his men not to fire unless they were fired upon. A part of his company had time to form in a military position facing the regulars; but while some were joining the ranks, and others were dispersing, the British troops rushed on, shouting and firing, and their officers—among whom was Major Pitcairn—exclaiming, ‘Ye villains! ye rebels! disperse! Lay down your arms! Why don’t you lay down your arms?’

“The militia did not instantly disperse, nor did they proceed to lay down their arms. The first guns [fired by the British], few in number, did no execution. A general discharge followed, with fatal results. A few of the militia who had been wounded, or who saw others killed or wounded by their side, no longer hesitated, but returned the fire of the regulars. . . . Meanwhile the regulars continued their fire as long as the militia remained in sight, killing eight and wounding ten. . . . The British suffered but little; a private of the Tenth

regiment, and probably one other, were wounded, and Major Pitcairn's horse was struck. Some of the provincials retreated up the road leading to Bedford, but most of them across a swamp to rising ground north of the common. The British troops formed on the common, fired a volley, and gave three huzzas in token of their victory. Lieutenant-Colonel Smith, with the remainder of the troops, soon joined Major Pitcairn, and the whole detachment marched toward Concord, about six miles distant."

"It was between one and two o'clock in the morning when the quiet community of Concord were aroused from their slumbers by the sounds of the church bell. The committee of safety, the military officers, and prominent citizens, assembled for consultation. Messengers were dispatched towards Lexington for information; the militia and minute-men were formed on the customary parade ground, near the meeting-house; and the inhabitants with a portion of the militia, under the able superintendence of Colonel James Barrett, zealously labored in removing the military stores into the woods and by-places for safety."

"One of the messengers, sent to obtain information, returned with the startling intelligence that the British regulars had fired upon his countrymen at Lexington, and were on their march for Concord. It was determined to go out to meet them. A part of the military of Lincoln,—the minute-men under Captain William Smith, and the militia under Captain Samuel Farrar,—had joined the Concord people; and after parading on the common, some of the companies marched down the

Lexington road until they saw the British two miles from the center of the town. Captain George Minot, with the alarm company, remained in town, and took possession of the hill near the liberty pole. He had no sooner gained it, however, than the companies that had gone down the road returned with the information that the number of the British was treble that of the Americans. The whole then fell back to an eminence about eighty rods distant, back of the town, where they formed in two battalions. Colonel Barrett, the commander, joined them there, having previously been engaged in removing the stores. They had scarcely formed, when the British troops appeared in sight at the distance of a quarter of a mile, and advancing with great celerity,—their arms glittering in the splendor of the early sunshine. But little time remained for deliberation. Some were in favor of resisting the further approach of the troops, while others, more prudent, advised a retreat and a delay until further reinforcements should arrive. Colonel Barrett ordered the militia to retire over the North Bridge to a commanding eminence, about a mile from the center of the town.

“The British troops then marched into Concord in two divisions; one by the main road and the other on the hill north of it, from which the Americans had just retired. They were posted in the following manner. The grenadiers and light infantry, under the immediate command of Lieutenant-Colonel Smith, remained in the center of the town. Captain Parsons, with six light companies, about two hundred men, was detached to secure the North Bridge and to destroy the stores, who

stationed three companies, under Captain Laurie, at the bridge, and proceeded with the other three companies to the residence of Colonel Barrett, about two miles distant, to destroy the magazines constructed there. Captain Pole, with a party, was sent, for a similar purpose, to the South Bridge.

“The British met with but partial success in the work of destruction, in consequence of the diligent concealment of the stores. In the center of the town they broke open about sixty barrels of flour, nearly half of which was subsequently saved; knocked off the trunnions of three iron twenty-four pound cannon, and burnt sixteen new carriage-wheels, and a few barrels of wooden trenchers and spoons. They cut down the liberty pole, and set the court-house on fire, which was put out, however, by the exertions of Mrs. Moulton. The parties at the South Bridge, and at Colonel Barrett’s, met with poor success. While engaged in this manner, the report of guns at the North Bridge put a stop to their proceedings.

“The British troops had been in Concord about two hours. During this time the minute-men from the neighboring towns had been constantly arriving on the high grounds, a short distance from the North Bridge, until they numbered about four hundred and fifty. . . . It is difficult, if not impossible, to ascertain to a certainty what companies were present that early in the day. They came from Carlisle, from Chelmsford, from Westford, from Littleton, and from Acton. Most of the operations of the British troops were visible from that place of rendezvous. Several fires were seen in the

middle of the town. Anxious apprehensions were then felt for its fate. A consultation of officers and prominent citizens was held. . . . The result of the consultation was that it was thought expedient to dislodge the guard at the North Bridge. Colonel Barrett, accordingly, ordered the militia to march to it, and to pass it, but not to fire upon the King's troops unless they were fired upon. . . .

"It was nearly ten o'clock in the morning when the provincials, about three hundred in number, arrived near the river. . . . The British guard, under Captain Laurie, about one hundred in number, were then on the west side of the river, but on seeing the provincials approach, they retired over the bridge to the east side of the river, formed as if for a fight, and began to take up the planks of the bridge. Major John Buttrick, of Concord, remonstrated against it, and ordered his men to hasten their march. When they had arrived within a few rods of the bridge, the British began to fire upon them. The first guns, few in number, did no execution; others followed with deadly effect. Luther Blanchard, a fifer in the Acton company, was the first wounded, and afterwards Captain Isaac Davis and Abner Hosmer, of the same company, were killed. On seeing the fire take effect, Major Buttrick exclaimed, 'Fire, fellow soldiers! for God's sake, fire!' The provincials then fired, and killed one and wounded several of the enemy. The firing lasted but a few minutes. The British immediately retreated, in great confusion, towards the main body,—a detachment from which was soon on its way to meet them. The provincials pursued them over

the bridge. . . . Part of the provincials soon turned to the left, and ascended the hill on the east side of the main road, while another part returned to the high grounds, carrying with them the remains of the gallant Davis and Hosmer. Military order was broken, and many, who had been on duty all the morning and were hungry and fatigued, improved the time to take refreshment.

“Meanwhile the party under Captain Parsons, returned from Colonel Barrett’s house, repassed the bridge where the skirmish took place, and saw the bodies of their companions. It would have been easy for the provincials to have cut them off. But war had not been declared, and it is evident that it had not been fully resolved to attack the British. Hence this party of about one hundred was allowed, unmolested, to join the main body. Lieutenant-Colonel Smith concentrated his force, obtained conveyances for the wounded, and occupied about two hours in making preparations to return to Boston,—a delay that nearly proved fatal to the whole detachment.”

News of the bloody encounter at Lexington and the later engagement at Concord was speedily carried to the neighboring towns and before nightfall to many places beyond them. The minute-men and militia were not tardy in assembling on the parade-grounds of the different villages on hearing the designated signals, whether of firing guns or ringing church bells, and within an hour or two were rapidly marching by the most direct roads leading to one or the other of the two scenes of the day’s memorable events.

Lieutenant-Colonel Smith about twelve o'clock began his march from Concord back to Boston. "His left was covered by a strong flank-guard that kept the height of land that borders the Lexington road, leading to Merriam's Corner; his right was protected by a brook; the main body marched in the road. It seemed, one of them writes, that 'men had dropped from the clouds,' so full were the hills and roads of the minute-men."

Captain Timothy Underwood's company of Westford minute-men, in which Jonas Kemp was a private, had that morning marched from there ten miles, and "had just entered the bounds of Concord when the fight took place." At Merriam's Corner, the Billerica company of minute-men, which had in its ranks William, the son of Hezekiah and Rebecca Kemp, being led by Captain Solomon Pollard, "joined in the assault and pursuit of the retreating foe." The Medford company, of which Captain Isaac Hall had command, and to which John, son of Lawrence and Dorothy Stebbins Kemp, belonged, having marched fourteen miles, soon thereafter began firing upon the fleeing British. Groton, seventeen miles distant from Concord, having late in the morning received the news of fighting there, immediately summoned to the parade-ground its two companies of minute-men, respectively commanded by Captain Henry Farwell and Captain Asa Lawrence, and its two companies of militia, severally under Captain John Sawtell and Captain James Hosley, and early in the afternoon bade them God-speed as they quitted the village to join in the pursuit of the English troops. In Captain Henry Farwell's company

were Dudley Bradstreet, Ebenezer, and William, sons of Ebenezer and Mary Bradstreet Kemp, and Ephraim and Samuel, sons of Samuel and Elizabeth Gilson Kemp. The Groton companies, in consequence of the late hour of the day when they began their march, did not succeed in taking part in the pursuit of the enemy's force. The Medford company had two men killed, and the Billerica company two wounded.

That afternoon the Fitchburg minute-men, one of whom was Benjamin, the third son of Joseph and Margaret Chamberlain Kemp, under the command of Captain Ebenezer Bridge, "started for Concord, and immediately after their departure a large wagon, filled with provisions, was dispatched to follow them. The company proceeded as rapidly as possible, but did not reach Concord until evening, too late to take any part in the events of that historic day." Although receiving the intelligence of the startling events at Lexington and Concord at a later hour, a company of minute-men of Hollis, New Hampshire, twenty-five miles distant from Concord, commanded by Captain Reuben Dow, and of which Thomas, the son of Zerubbabel and Abigail Lawrence Kemp, was a member, began marching thither that same day.

On the following morning Captain William Scott's company of minute-men of Peterboro, New Hampshire, of which William, son of Jason and Hannah Meers Kemp, was a member, began a long march of forty or more miles to reach it. On the same day Captain Hugh McClellan's company of minute-men of Shelburne, Massachusetts, eighty-five miles from Concord, also be-

gan marching toward that place. Amasa and Lawrence, sons of John and Sarah Holden Kemp, were enrolled members of that body of minute-men. The ardent patriotism of the Kemps of New England had, indeed, a signal manifestation by the presence of fourteen of their representatives in the companies of militia and minute-men who are so early recorded as having dared to take up arms against the arrogant power of Great Britain in defence of their declared rights.

“The woods lined both sides of the road [beyond Brook’s tavern] which the British had to pass, and they were filled with the minute-men. ‘The enemy was now completely between two fires, renewed and briskly kept up. They ordered out a flank guard on the left to dislodge the Americans from their posts behind large trees, but they only became a better mark to be shot at.’ And for three or four miles along these woody defiles the British suffered terribly.”

“The British troops, when they arrived within a short distance of Lexington meeting-house, again suffered severely from the close pursuit and the sharp fire of the provincials. Their ammunition began to fail, while their light companies were so fatigued as to be almost unfitted for service. The large number of wounded created confusion, and many of the troops rather ran than marched in order. . . . The detachment, however, must have soon surrendered, had it not, in its extreme peril, found shelter in the hollow square of a reinforcement sent to their relief. . . . Percy’s brigade [the reinforcement] met the harassed and retreating troops, about two o’clock,

within half a mile of the Lexington meeting-house. 'They were so much exhausted with fatigue,' the British historian, Stedman, writes, 'that they were obliged to lie down for rest on the ground, their tongues hanging out of their mouths, like dogs after a chase.' The field-pieces from the high ground below Monroe's tavern played on the provincials, and for a short period there was, save the discharge of cannon, a cessation of battle. From this time, however, the troops committed the most wanton destruction. Three houses, two shops, and a barn were laid in ashes in Lexington; buildings on the route were defaced and plundered, and individuals were grossly abused. . . .

"After a short interval of rest and refreshment, the British recommenced their retreat. Then the provincials renewed their attack. In West Cambridge the skirmishing again became sharp and bloody. . . . The wanton destruction of life and property that marked the course of the invaders added revenge to the natural bravery of the minute-men. . . . The British troops took the road that winds round Prospect Hill. When they entered this part of Charlestown their situation was critical. The large number of the wounded proved a distressing obstruction to their progress, while they had but few rounds of ammunition left. Their field-pieces had lost their terror. The main body of provincials hung closely on their rear, and seven hundred strong threatened to cut off their retreat to Charlestown. . . . The minute-men closely followed, but when they reached Charlestown common, General William Heath ordered them to stop the pursuit.

"The Americans lost forty-nine killed, thirty-nine wounded, and five missing. . . . The British lost seventy-three killed and one hundred and seventy-four wounded, and twenty-six missing."<sup>1</sup>

## XVII

## BATTLE OF BUNKER HILL

THE determination of General Thomas Gage, commanding the British forces at Boston, to take possession of Dorchester Heights, two hills on Dorchester Point, now within the limits of South Boston, upon the night of the 18th of June, 1775, the Committee of Safety recommended the following action to be taken by the Council of War:

"In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, June 15th, 1775. Whereas it appears of Importance to the Safety of this Colony, that possession of the Hill, Called Bunker's hill in Charlestown be Securly kept and defended; and

<sup>1</sup> History of the Siege of Boston, and of the Battles of Lexington, Concord, and Bunker Hill, by Richard Frothingham, Boston, 1873, pp. 61-74, 76-82. History of the Town of Westford, in the County of Middlesex, Massachusetts, by Rev. Edwin R. Hodgman, Lowell, 1888, pp. 106, 107. History of Billerica, Massachusetts, by Rev. Henry A. Hazen, Boston, 1883, pp. 234, 235. History of the Town of Medford, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, by Charles Brooks, Boston, 1865, pp. 186, 187. History of the Town of Groton, including Pepperell and Shirley, by Caleb Butler, Boston, 1848, pp. 125, 335, 336. Groton Historical Series, by Samuel Abbott Green, vol. iii, p. 432. Massachusetts Archives, Revolutionary War Rolls. History of Worcester County, Massachusetts, by D. Hamilton Hurd, vol. i, pp. 216, 218. History of the Connecticut Valley in Massachusetts, by Louis H. Everts, Philadelphia, 1879, p. 749.

also some one hill or hills on Dorchester neck be likewise Secured, Therefore Resolved unanimously that it be recommended to the Council of Warr, that the abovementioned, Bunker hill, be mainttained, by Sufficent force being posted there, and as the particular Sittuation of Dorchester neck is unknown to this Committee, they advise that the Council of war take and pursue such Steps respecting the Same, as to them shall appear to be, for the Security of this Colony.

“ BENJA : WHITE, Chairman.”

At that time thirteen representatives of the New-England Kemps were enlisted men in the Provincial Army: Amasa, son of John and Sarah Holden Kemp, a sergeant in Captain Agrippa Wells's company in Colonel John Whitcomb's regiment; David, son of David and Hannah Sawtell Kemp, in Captain Joshua Parker's company in Colonel William Prescott's regiment; Dudley Bradstreet and William, sons of Ebenezer and Mary Bradstreet Kemp, in Captain Thomas Wait Foster's company in Colonel Richard Gridley's regiment of artillery, and their brother Ebenezer, in Captain Henry Farwell's company in Colonel William Prescott's regiment, and their brother Simeon, in Captain Abijah Wyman's company in the same regiment; Joseph, son of Joseph and Margaret Chamberlain Kemp, in Captain Ebenezer Bancroft's company in Colonel Ebenezer Bridge's regiment, in which company and regiment was Solomon Kemp of Bedford; Reuben and William, sons of Jason and Hannah Meers Kemp, in Captain Samuel Richard's company in Colonel John Stark's New Hamp-

shire regiment, and their brother Thaddeus, in Captain Luke Drury's company in Lieutenant-Colonel Jonathan Ward's regiment; Thomas, son of Zerubbabel and Abigail Lawrence Kemp, in Captain Reuben Dow's company in Colonel William Prescott's regiment; and William, son of Hezekiah and Rebecca Kemp, in Captain Charles Forbush's company in Colonel Ebenezer Bridge's regiment.

"On Friday, the sixteenth of June, the commanders of the army, in accordance with the recommendation of the Committee of Safety, took measures to fortify Bunker Hill. Orders were issued for Prescott's, Frye's and Bridge's regiments, and a fatigue party of two hundred Connecticut troops, to parade at six o'clock in the evening, with all the intrenching tools in the Cambridge camp. They were also ordered to furnish themselves with packs and blankets, and with provisions for twenty-four hours. Also, Captain Samuel Gridley's company of artillery, of forty-nine men and two field-pieces, was ordered to parade."

"The detachment was placed under the command of Colonel William Prescott, of Pepperell, who had orders in writing, from General Artemas Ward, to proceed that evening to Bunker Hill, build fortifications to be planned by Colonel Richard Gridley, the chief engineer, and defend them until he should be relieved,—the order not to be communicated until the detachment had passed Charlestown Neck. The regiments and fatigue party ordered to parade would have constituted a force of at least fourteen hundred; but only three hundred of Prescott's regiment, a part of Bridge's, and a part of Frye's

under Lieutenant-Colonel Bricket, the artillery, and the two hundred Connecticut troops, were ordered to march. Hence the number may be fairly estimated at twelve hundred. It was understood that reinforcements and refreshments should be sent to Colonel Prescott on the following morning."

Reaching Bunker Hill, "Colonel Prescott called the field officers around him and communicated his orders. A long consultation took place in relation to the place to be fortified. . . . The order was explicit as to Bunker Hill, and yet a position nearer Boston, now known as Breed's Hill, seemed better adapted to the objects of the expedition, and better suited the daring spirit of the officers. It was contended, however, that works ought not to be commenced at this place until Bunker Hill had been fortified, in order to cover, in case of necessity, a retreat. The moments were precious, and the engineer strongly urged the importance of a speedy decision. On the pressing importunity of one of the generals, it was concluded to proceed to Breed's Hill. At the same time it was determined that works should be erected on Bunker Hill. When the detachment reached Breed's Hill, the packs were thrown off, the guns were stacked, Colonel Gridley marked out a plan of a fortification, tools were distributed, and about twelve o'clock the men began to work."

"In the course of the night the ramparts of the redoubt had been raised to the height of six or seven feet, with a small ditch at their base, but it was yet in a rude and very imperfect state. Being in full view from the northern heights of Boston, it was discovered by the

enemy as soon as daylight appeared, and a determination was immediately formed by General Gage for dislodging the provincial troops from this new and alarming position. Arrangements were promptly made for effecting this important object. . . .

“Colonel John Stark’s regiment was quartered in Medford, distant about four miles from the point of anticipated attack. It then consisted of thirteen companies, and was probably the largest regiment in the army. About ten o’clock in the morning [of the 17th of June] he received orders to march. The regiment being destitute of ammunition, it was formed in front of a house occupied as an arsenal, where each man received a gill-cup full of powder, fifteen balls, and one flint.

“The several captains were then ordered to march their companies to their respective quarters, and make up their powder and ball into cartridges, with the greatest possible dispatch. As there were scarcely two muskets in a company of equal caliber, it was necessary to reduce the size of the balls for many of them, and as but a small proportion of the men had cartridge boxes, the remainder made use of powder horns and ball pouches.

“After completing the necessary preparations for action, the regiment formed, and marched about one o’clock. When it reached Charlestown Neck, we,” as Captain Henry Dearborn relates, “found two regiments halted, in consequence of a heavy enfilading fire thrown across it of round, bar, and chain shot, from the frigate *Lively*, and the floating batteries anchored in Charles River, and a floating battery laying in the river Mystic. Major Andrew McClary went forward, and observed to

the commanders, if they did not intend to move on, he wished them to open and let the regiment pass. The latter was immediately done. Captain Henry Dearborn's company being in front, the commander of that company marched by the side of Colonel Stark, who, moving with a deliberate pace, Captain Dearborn suggested the propriety of quickening the march of the regiment that it might sooner be relieved from the galling cross fire of the enemy. With a look peculiar to himself, he fixed his eyes upon the captain, and observed with great composure, 'Dearborn, one fresh man in action is worth ten fatigued ones,' and continued to advance in the same cool and collected manner. When the first companies of Colonel Stark's regiment reached the top of Bunker Hill, where General Israel Putnam had taken his station, they halted for a few moments for those in the rear to come up."

Several of the companies in Colonel Stark's regiment, by the order of General Putnam, began throwing up a breastwork on Bunker Hill, while Colonel Stark, after encouraging his men to acquit themselves as resolute defenders of the rights which Great Britain had contemptuously denied them, led the other companies to the position taken by Captain Thomas Knowlton with the Connecticut troops, "near the base of Bunker Hill, six hundred feet in the rear of the redoubt, behind a fence, one half of which was stone, with two rails of wood" above it. The grass of the field, on one side of the fence, had been cut and lay in windrows and cocks. The men of the regiment took the rails of another fence and thrust them partly through the space between those

on the top of the half-stone one, and then tossed the gathered hay into the long rack formed by the rails. Serving as it did to conceal the men behind it from the enemy, it also afforded them an advantageous outlook. Behind this fence was the New Hampshire regiment, commanded by Colonel James Reed.

Under a general discharge of artillery from the floating batteries and the shipping in the Charles River, the advance of the British columns began shortly after three o'clock, "General William Howe with the right wing to penetrate the American line at the rail fence, and cut off a retreat from the redoubt,—General Pigot with the left wing to storm the breastwork and redoubt."

Reuben Kemp, in Captain Samuel Richards's company in Colonel Stark's regiment, who had been engaged in throwing up the breastwork as ordered by General Putnam, says in an affidavit made by him: "We had not worked more than ten or fifteen minutes before the drums beat to arms, and we marched immediately to the redoubt and breastwork, which was thrown up the night before. Here we remained till the enemy came to the attack. General Putnam seemed to have the ordering of things. He charged the men not to fire till the enemy came close to the works, and told one officer to see that the order was obeyed. A few pieces were fired before the order was given. General Putnam passed along the lines quickly with his drawn sword, and threatened to stab any man who fired without order.

"The enemy kept firing as they advanced, and when they had got pretty near the works, we were all ordered to take good aim and fire. I felt plaguedly scared as

they were advancing, but after the first fire I did not care much about it, for we cut down a great many, and seemed to confuse the rest. Soon as ever we fired, we stepped back and loaded again, and as fast as every man got ready, he discharged his piece. There was no waiting for one another. Behind the breastwork there was a step that the men raised themselves on to fire, and then fell back to load, so that we were pretty safe under cover. All this time, General Putnam was passing backwards and forwards, from right to left, telling us the day was our own, and it was not many minutes before the enemy began to retreat."

"The firing ceased for a short time," as is related by Captain Dearborn of Colonel Stark's regiment, "until the enemy again formed, advanced, and recommenced a spirited fire from his whole line. Several attempts were again made to turn our left, but the troops, having thrown up a slight stone wall on the bank of the river and laying down behind it, gave such a deadly fire as cut down almost every man of the party opposed to them, while the fire from the redoubt and the rail fence was so well directed and so fatal, especially to the British officers, that the whole army was compelled a second time to retreat. At this time the ground occupied by the enemy was covered with his dead and wounded. Only a few small detached parties again advanced, which kept up a distant ineffectual scattering fire, until a strong reinforcement arrived from Boston, which advanced on the southern declivity of the hill, in the rear of Charlestown. When this column arrived opposite the angle of the redoubt, which faced Charlestown, it wheeled by platoons

to the right and advanced directly upon the redoubt without firing a gun. By this time our ammunition was exhausted. A few men only had a charge left.

“The advancing column made an attempt to carry the redoubt by assault, but at the first onset every man that mounted the parapet was cut down by the troops within, who had formed on the opposite side, not being prepared with bayonets to meet a charge.

“The column wavered for a moment, but soon formed again, when a forward movement was made with such spirit and intrepidity as to render the feeble efforts of a handful of men, without the means of defence, unavailing, and they fled through an open space, in the rear of the redoubt, which had been left for a gateway. At this moment the rear of the British column advanced round the angle of the redoubt, and threw in a galling flank fire upon our troops as they rushed from it, which killed and wounded a greater number than had fallen before during the action. The whole of our line immediately gave way, and retreated with rapidity and disorder towards Bunker Hill, carrying off as many of the wounded as possible, so that only thirty-six or seven fell into the hands of the enemy.”

“When the Americans left the redoubt, the dust rising from the dry, loose dirt was so great that the outlet was hardly visible. Some ran over the top, and others hewed their way through the enemy’s ranks. Prescott, among the last to leave, was surrounded by the British, who made passes at him with their bayonets, which he skilfully parried with his sword. . . . The British, with cheers, took possession of the works, but immedi-

ately formed, and delivered a destructive fire upon the retreating troops. General Joseph Warren at this period was killed, and left on the field; Gridley was wounded, and Bridge was again wounded. . . .

“In the meantime the Americans at the rail fence, under Stark, Reed, and Knowlton, reinforced by Clark’s, Coit’s, and Chester’s Connecticut companies, Captain Harris’ company of Gardner’s regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel Ward, and a few troops, maintained their ground with great firmness and intrepidity, and successfully resisted every attempt to turn their flank. This line, indeed, was nobly defended. The force here did a great service, for it saved the main body, who were retreating with disorder from the redoubt, from being cut off by the enemy. When it was perceived at the rail fence that the force under Colonel Prescott had left the hill, these brave men ‘gave ground, but with more regularity than could have been expected of troops who had been no longer under discipline, and many of whom never before saw an engagement.’ The whole body of Americans were now in full retreat, the greater part over the top of Bunker Hill.

“The brow of Bunker Hill was a place of great slaughter. General Putnam here rode to the rear of the retreating troops, and regardless of the balls flying about him, with his sword drawn, and still undaunted in his bearing, urged them to renew the fight in the unfinished works. ‘Make a stand here,’ he exclaimed, ‘we can stop them yet! In God’s name, form, and give them one shot more.’ It was here that he stood by an artillery piece until the enemy’s bayonets were almost upon

him. . . . It was not possible, however, to check the retreat. . . . Colonel Scammans, with a part of his regiment, and Captain Foster's artillery company, on their way to the field of battle, reached the top of Bunker Hill, but immediately retreated. The whole body retired over Charlestown Neck, amidst the shot from the enemy's ships and batteries, and were met by additional troops on their way to the heights. Among them Major Brooks, with two remaining companies of Bridge's regiment. One piece of cannon at the Neck opened on the enemy, and covered the retreat. The British troops, about five o'clock, with a parade of triumph, took possession of the same hill that had served them for a retreat on the memorable nineteenth of April."

The loss of the Americans was one hundred and forty killed, two hundred and seventy-one wounded, and thirty captured. That of the British was two hundred and twenty-six killed and eight hundred and twenty-eight wounded.

Joseph Kemp, in Colonel Ebenezer Bridge's regiment, was killed; Thomas Kemp, in Colonel William Prescott's regiment, was wounded; and among those captured was David Kemp of the same regiment. He was confined in the Boston jail, and there died on September 10, 1775.

In reviewing the incidents of the day, Captain Dearborn of Colonel Stark's regiment remarks: "Every platoon officer was engaged in discharging his own musket, and left his men to fire as they pleased, but never without a sure aim at some particular object, which was more destructive than any mode which could have been adopted with troops who were not inured to discipline,

and never had been in battle, but who still were familiar with the use of arms from boyhood, and each having his peculiar manner of loading and firing, which had been practised for years with the same gun, any attempt to control them by uniformity and system, would have rendered their firing less fatal to the enemy. Not an officer or soldier of the continental troops engaged was in uniform, but were in the plain and ordinary dress of citizens; nor was there an officer on horseback.”<sup>1</sup>

## XVIII

## WAR OF 1812-1815

THE opposition to the war manifested by the New-England States, and the singularly marked avoidance of the British in making hostile demonstrations upon the coast of the Eastern States, save bombarding Stonington, Connecticut, gave currency to the allegation that Great Britain was secretly using means to have them voluntarily return to her as colonies. Men of high position and influence were exceedingly active in embarrassing the general government in prosecuting the war and in openly contending that the United States

<sup>1</sup>History of the Siege of Boston and of the Battles of Lexington, Concord, and Bunker Hill, by Richard Frothingham, Boston, 1873, pp. 116, 117, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 134, 138, 139, 150, 151, 152. The Port Folio, fourth series, March, 1818, vol. v, pp. 181, 182, 183, 184, 190. An Enquiry into the Conduct of General Putnam in Relation to the Battle of Bunker or Breed's Hill, and Remarks upon Mr. S. Swett's Sketch of that Battle, Boston, 1819, pp. 6, 7. New England Chronicle, September 14, 1775.

had no justifying cause for declaring it. This baneful political opinion greatly swayed the military action of the New-England people and largely restrained them from taking part in the war. The only information that seems extant concerning the participation of the New-England Kemps in it is that Jonas Kemp of Westford, Massachusetts, was a private in Lieutenant-Colonel Jonathan Page's company of detached militia stationed at Fort Warren, in Boston Harbor, from September 13 to November 7, 1814; and that James Kemp was killed and Jonas Kemp severely wounded in the battle at Sackett's Harbor on May 29, 1813.

XIX

AMERICAN ANCESTORS OF THE  
HON. WILLIAM KEMP OF TROY, NEW YORK.

- I Samuel Kemp and Sarah Foster, married May 23, 1662.
- II Jonathan Kemp and Mary Gilson, married November 19, 1718.
- III Joseph Kemp and Margaret Chamberlain, married December 20, 1740.
- IV Benjamin Kemp and Judith Reed, married May 5, 1761.
- V John Reed Kemp and Hannah Wheeler, married October 19, 1786.
- VI James Kemp and Elizabeth Haggerty, married in 1818.

## XX

DESCENDANTS OF  
WILLIAM AND EDWARD KEMP  
OF PLYMOUTH AND MASSACHUSETTS  
BAY COLONIES—1635-1667

WILLIAM KEMP, with his wife Elizabeth and son William, sailed from the town of Hampton, England, about April 5, 1635, in the ship *James* of London, and arrived at Boston, in Massachusetts Bay Colony, on June 4, that year. Thence he went with his family to Plymouth, in Plymouth Colony, and in 1639 settled at Duxbury, where he died in 1640.

Children :

- 1 William, born in England.
- 2 Patience, " probably in Duxbury.

- I William, son of William and Elizabeth Kemp of Duxbury, Plymouth Colony, born in England, married, in Duxbury, about 1660, Patience, a daughter of the Rev. Thomas and Elizabeth Partridge Thacher of Weymouth, in Plymouth Colony. Nothing concerning their deaths and children seems to be extant in any of the early New-England records.
- II Patience, daughter of William and Elizabeth Kemp of Duxbury, Plymouth Colony, born probably in Duxbury, married, in Weymouth, in Plymouth Colony, on

November 9, 1660, Samuel, son of John and Grace Seabury of Boston, born there on December 10, 1640. By profession he was a physician. She died in Duxbury on October 29, 1676. He married second, in Duxbury, on April 4, 1677, Martha, daughter of William and Elizabeth Pabodie of Duxbury, born there on February 24, 1650. Her mother was a daughter of John and Priscilla Mullins Alden, born in Plymouth in 1625. Doctor Samuel Seabury died in Duxbury on August 5, 1681.

Children, by first wife:

Elizabeth, born in Duxbury, September 16, 1661.

Sarah, " " August 18, 1663.

Samuel, " " April 20, 1666.

Hannah, " " July 7, 1668.

John, " " November 7, 1670.

Grace }  
Patience } twins, born in Duxbury, March 1, 1673.

By second wife:

Joseph, born in Duxbury, June 8, 1678.

Martha, " " September 23, 1679.

John, " " in 1680.

A posthumous child, in 1682.

EDWARD KEMP, who became a freeman of Massachusetts Bay Colony on March 13, 1638, at Boston, probably arrived there in a ship from England, in company with his wife Ann and their daughter Esther. In September, 1638, he went with them to Dedham, where he made his home until the spring of 1652, when he moved

to Wenham, and thence, in November, 1655, to Chelmsford. His wife died there on April 17, 1667, and he on December 17, 1668.

Child:

I Esther, born in England in ——— 1619.

- I Esther, daughter of Edward and Ann Kemp of England, born there in 1619, married in Dedham, in Massachusetts Bay Colony, on November 15, 1648, Samuel Foster, born in England in 1619, and died in Chelmsford on July 16, 1702, where, the same year, she had died on April 16.

Children:

Edward, born in Chelmsford, April 30, 1657; died there, August 13, 1676.

Andrew, born in Chelmsford, February 29, 1662; died there, December 20, 1671.

Abraham, born in Chelmsford, October 22, 1664; died there, December 7, 1671.

Nathaniel, born in Chelmsford, October 14, 1667.

John, born in Chelmsford, July 28, 1671; died there, December 13, 1671.

Ann, born in Chelmsford, December 3, 1684.

Joseph, born in Chelmsford, November 14, 1686; died there, January 29, 1689.

Edward, born in Chelmsford, January 9, 1689.

Moses,        "        "        October 14, 1692.

Sarah,        "        "        August 16, 1694.

Andrew,      "        "        March 28, 1695.

Jane,         "        "        October 8, 1696.

XXI

DESCENDANTS OF  
SAMUEL KEMP  
OF MASSACHUSETTS BAY COLONY  
1663-1904.

\* SAMUEL KEMP of England, who was one of a number of colonists of Massachusetts Bay signing a petition to the General Court of the colony, dated at Chelmsford, May 17, 1658, married, in the town of Billerica, on May 23, 1662, Sarah, daughter of Sergeant Thomas and Elizabeth Foster of that settlement.

Children :

- 1 Samuel, born in Billerica, February 23, 1663.
- 2 Abigail, " " March 27, 1665.
- \* 3 Jonathan, " Groton, April 6, 1668.
- 4 Mehetable, " " June 4, 1673.
- 5 Zerubbabel, " Andover, probably in 1677.
- 6 Bithiah, " Groton, July 9, 1683.

Bithiah married, in Groton, November 12, 1719, John Spencer of that place.

- I Samuel, son of Samuel and Sarah Foster Kemp, born in Billerica, in Massachusetts Bay Colony, on February 23, 1663, married, in Andover, in Massachusetts Bay Colony, on February 12, 1713, Sarah Lacey of that place.

## Children :

- 7 Sarah, born in Groton, October 9, 1713.
- 8 Samuel, " " April 13, 1716.
- 9 William, " " April 20, 1718.
- 10 Susanna, " " May 14, 1720.
- 11 David, " " September 30, 1722.
- 12 Esther, " " October 9, 1725.
- 13 Ebenezer, " " April —, 1729.

II Abigail, daughter of Samuel and Sarah Foster Kemp, born in Billerica, in Massachusetts Bay Colony, on March 27, 1665, married in Groton, in Massachusetts Bay Colony, on December 20, 1686, James, son of Richard and Isabel Blood. He married first, on September 7, 1669, Elizabeth Longley, by whom he had one son and three daughters. He was killed by the Indians.

## Children :

- James, born in Groton, August 12, 1687.
- John, " " March 16, 1689.
- Martha, " " October 20, 1692.

\* III Jonathan, son of Samuel and Sarah Foster Kemp, born in Groton, in Massachusetts Bay Colony, on April 6, 1668, married there, in 1698, Mary, daughter of Joseph and Mary Gilson of Groton. He married second, in Concord, in Massachusetts Bay Colony, on November 19, 1718, Sarah, his first wife's sister, born in Groton on June 25, 1669.

Children :

- \* 14 Joseph, born in Groton, September 10, 1699.
- 15 Mary, " " May 27, 1702.
- 16 Josiah, " Chelmsford, March 8, 1708.
- 17 John, " " September 26, 1714.
- 18 Mary, " Billerica, December 11, 1719.
- 19 Sarah, " " July 8, 1721.
- 20 Anna, " Chelmsford, January 3, 1723.
- 21 Jonathan, " " April 6, 1724.

Jonathan married, in Chelmsford, in November, 1744,  
Abigail Keyes of Chelmsford.

IV Mehetable.

- v Zerubbabel, son of Samuel and Sarah Foster Kemp,  
born in Andover, in Massachusetts Bay Colony,  
probably in 1677, married Mary ———.

Children :

- 22 Ebenezer, born in Groton, February 28, 1704.
- 23 Zerubbabel, " " October 12, 1705.
- 24 John, " " January 18, 1708.
- 25 Dorothy, baptized " February 11, 1711.
- 26 Mary, born in " April 8, 1713.
- 27 Hezekiah, baptized " August 14, 1715.
- 28 Sarah, " " August 3, 1718.

Sarah married, in Groton, on August 5, 1784, Eleazer  
Nutting, jr., of that place.

Zerubbabel Kemp's name appears in a list of the names  
of such settlers as had removed, or contemplated re-  
moving, on July 9, 1707, from Groton, in consequence  
of want of protection from bodies of hostile Indians.

What action he had taken does not appear in the records. Inasmuch as he died in Groton, in 1762, he either remained or returned there some time after the list of names had been sent to the governor of Massachusetts Bay.

VIII Samuel, son of Samuel and Sarah Lacey Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on April 13, 1716, married there, in February, 1736, Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph and Mary Gilson, born in Groton on February 11, 1720.

Children :

- |    |                              |                   |
|----|------------------------------|-------------------|
| 29 | Joseph, born in Groton,      | January 16, 1737. |
| 30 | Ephraim,           "       " | March 24, 1741.   |
| 31 | Samuel,           "       "  | August 1, 1743.   |
| 32 | Elizabeth,       "       "   | November 9, 1745. |
| 33 | Mary,           "       "    | April 6, 1748.    |
| 34 | Eunice,           "       "  | July 16, 1750.    |
| 35 | Ruth,           "       "    | January 19, 1753. |
| 36 | Eunice,           "       "  | April 4, 1758.    |
| 37 | Jonas,           "       "   | July 27, 1760.    |
| 38 | Sarah, baptized in Groton,   | April 8, 1764.    |

Samuel Kemp, sr., served as a private in the Indian wars.

Ruth Kemp married, in Groton, on January 6, 1774, John Hadley, jr., of Westford, Massachusetts.

Eunice married, in Groton, on July 29, 1778, Jonas Sawtell of that place.

Jonas married, in Groton, on February 10, 1783, Mary Nutting of that place. He served as a private in the Revolutionary War.

Sarah married, in Groton, on August 5, 1784, Eleazer Nutting, jr., of that place.

IX William, son of Samuel and Sarah Lacey Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on April 20, 1718, married there, on November 11, 1740, Patience, daughter of Eleazer and Abigail Davis Nutting, born in Groton, on August 2, 1722. He died in 1754. She married second, in Groton, on June 16, 1773, David Sawtell.

Child:

39 Sybil, born in Groton, March 13, 1740.

X Susanna, daughter of Samuel and Sarah Lacey Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on May 14, 1720, married there, on March 30, 1736, William, son of Nathaniel and Lydia Parker, born in Groton, on November 4, 1716.

Children:

Susanna, born in Groton, February 10, 1737.

William, " " September 28, 1741.

Sybil, " " May 1, 1744.

Samuel, " " March 7, 1746.

Isaac, " " January 22, 1749.

Levi, " " June 25, 1752.

Susanna, " " October 10, 1755.

XI David, son of Samuel and Sarah Lacey Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on September 30, 1722, married there, on January 5, 1743, Hannah, daughter of Ephraim and Abigail Sawtell, born in Groton, on March 19, 1725.

Children:

40 Hannah, born in Groton, July 26, 1744.

41 Susanna, " " August 27, 1746.

- 42 Phineas, born in Groton, June 21, 1749.  
 43 Rachel, " " August 31, 1751.  
 44 Susanna, " Pepperell, July 4, 1754.  
 45 David, " Groton, January 25, 1758.  
 46 Elizabeth, " " December 31, 1760  
 47 Lydia, " Shirley, May 2, 1764.  
 48 Olive, " Groton, April 14, 1768.

David Kemp, sr., served in the Indian wars.

Phineas Kemp served in the Continental Army in the Revolutionary War and was killed in the battle at Monmouth, New Jersey.

Rachel Kemp married, in Groton, on October 3, 1769, Peter, son of James and Lydia Bennett Fisk, born there on March 16, 1743.

David Kemp, jr., served in the Revolutionary War.

Lydia Kemp married, in Groton, on June 24, 1783, John Blood of that place.

Olive Kemp died in Groton, on March 18, 1782.

- XII Esther, daughter of Samuel and Sarah Lacey Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on October 9, 1725, married, in Pepperell, Massachusetts, on July 21, 1748, Zachariah Withe.

Children :

- Abigail, born in Groton, December 15, 1749.  
 Zachariah, " " July —, 1752.  
 Samuel, " " April 24, 1754.  
 Susanna, " " November 4, 1756.  
 Luke, " " November 13, 1759.  
 Zoa, baptized " July 14, 1765.  
 Uzziel, " " ———

XIII Ebenezer, son of Samuel and Sarah Lacey Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, in April, 1729, married, in Westford, Massachusetts, on October 31, 1749, Mary, daughter of Dudley and Abigail Lakin Bradstreet, born in Groton, on August 7, 1730. He died before March 30, 1770. His widow is named in the church records of Groton until March 27, 1808.

Children :

- 49 Ebenezer, born in Groton, June 11, 1750.
- 50 Abigail,       "       "       July 28, 1751.
- 51 William,       "       "       September 2, 1753.
- 52 Dudley Bradstreet,       "       April 21, 1754.
- 53 Mary,       born in       "       November 23, 1755.
- 54 Simeon,       "       "       September 28, 1758.
- 55 Lydia,       "       "       July 4, 1760.
- 56 Hannah,       "       "       August 17, 1762.
- 57 Oliver,       "       "       June 27, 1765.
- 58 Ann, baptized       "       July 13, 1766.

Ebenezer Kemp, sr., is named on a list, dated December 19, 1758, as a bayonet-man in Captain James Prescott's company of Groton soldiers.—Groton During the Indian Wars, by Samuel A. Green, M.D., Groton, Massachusetts, 1883, p. 177.

Ebenezer Kemp, jr., married, in Groton, on August 31, 1773, Relief Phillips of Groton. He served in the Revolutionary War.

Abigail Kemp married, on April 23, 1781, Daniel Smith of Shrewsbury.

Dudley Bradstreet Kemp served in the Revolutionary War.

Mary married, in Groton, on March 9, 1773, Nehemiah Gould.

Lydia married, in Groton, on November 4, 1784,  
Joseph Wetherbee, jr., of that place.

Hannah married, in Groton, on February 22, 1788,  
Joseph Sawtell, 3d, of that place.

- \* XIV Joseph, son of Jonathan and Mary Gilson Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on September 10, 1699, married, in Concord, Massachusetts, on December 20, 1720, Margaret Chamberlain of Billerica. He died in Billerica in 1756.

Children :

- |      |           |                    |                    |
|------|-----------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 59   | Jason,    | born in Billerica, | November 11, 1725. |
| 60   | Joseph,   | " "                | June 20, 1727.     |
| * 61 | Benjamin, | " "                | June 20, 1731.     |
| 62   | Sampson,  | " "                | August 29, 1733.   |
| 63   | Jacob,    | " "                | August 12, 1735.   |
| 64   | David,    | " "                | June 26, 1739.     |
| 65   | Oliver,   | " "                | September 9, 1744. |

Joseph Kemp, jr., served as a private in Captain Ebenezer Bancroft's company, at the beginning of the Revolutionary War and was killed at the Battle of Bunker Hill.

David Kemp served in the Revolutionary War.

- XV Mary, daughter of Jonathan and Mary Gilson Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on May 27, 1702, married there, on February 11, 1731, Phineas, son of Phineas and Elizabeth Parker, born in Groton, on November 22, 1709.

Children :

Jonathan,	born in Groton,	August 17, 1731.
Thomas,	" "	October —, 1734.
Phineas,	" "	September 22, 1736.
Zachariah,	" "	July 24, 1739.

XVI Josiah, son of Jonathan and Mary Gilson Kemp, born in Chelmsford, Massachusetts, on March 8, 1708, married in Billerica, Massachusetts, on June 29, 1731, Rachel Davis of that place.

Children :

66	Phineas,	born in Chelmsford,	February 18, 1732.
67	Josiah,	" "	January 26, 1733.
68	Lydia,	" "	November 29, 1734.
69	Nathaniel,	" "	February 6, 1737.
70	Ezekiel,	" Billerica,	March 28, 1741.
71	Olive,	" "	February 18, 1743.
72	Martha,	" "	July 14, 1748.
73	Simeon,	" "	October 23, 1750.
74	Anne,	" "	September 7, 1753.

Phineas Kemp was killed, near Ticonderoga, on June 21, 1757, in the expedition against the French, that year.

Josiah Kemp, jr., served as a private in the Indian wars.

Lydia Kemp of Westford married, on May 18, 1764, John Phillips of Cambridge.

Nathaniel Kemp served as a private in the War of the Revolution.

Ezekiel Kemp married, in Winchester, New Hampshire, in December, 1775, Rebecca Healy of that place. He served in the Indian wars.

Simeon Kemp served as a private in the War of the Revolution.

XVII John, son of Jonathan and Mary Gilson Kemp, born in Chelmsford, Massachusetts, on September 26, 1714, married, in Billerica, Massachusetts, on December 5, 1735, Susanna Gilson.

Children :

- 75 Rachel, born in Billerica, March 2, 1737.
  - 76 John,       "       "       May 23, 1743.
  - 77 Ebenezer, "       "       February —, 1745.
  - 78 Thankful, "       "       January 6, 1748.
- Rachel died on November 19, 1739.

XXIII Zerubbabel, son of Zerubbabel and Mary Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on October 12, 1705, married there, on November 23, 1737, Abigail, daughter of Zachariah and Abigail Lawrence, born in Groton on May 16, 1718. He married second, in Hollis, New Hampshire, on April 20, 1758, Hannah Colburn.

- 79 Mary, born in Groton, November 3, 1738.
- 80 Abigail,   "       "       January 17, 1741.
- 81 Elizabeth, "       "       May 4, 1743.
- 82 Thomas,   "       "       about 1745.
- 83 Zerubbabel, "       "       February 24, 1748.
- 84 Zachariah, "       "       July 26, 1750.

By second wife :

- 85 Sarah, born in Hollis, N. H., January 30, 1759.
- 86 John,       "       "       May 26, 1761.

Abigail Kemp married, in Groton, on April 23, 1781, David Smith of Shrewsbury.

At a meeting of the inhabitants of West Parish in Dunstable on January 17, 1742-3, Zerubbabel Kemp was

present and subscribed his name to an instrument of writing. On June 18, 1744, he was one of a number of petitioners desiring the protection of a garrison of soldiers.—New England Historical and Genealogical Record, vol. xxviii. p. 148. Town papers of New Hampshire, vol. ix. p. 194.

XXIV John, son of Zerubbabel and Mary Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on January 18, 1708, married there, on November 4, 1731, Sarah, daughter of John and Sarah Davis Holden, born in Groton, on September 5, 1717. He died in Pepperell in 1755.

Children :

- 87 John, born in Groton, June 4, 1732.
- 88 Lawrence, “ “ September 24, 1733.
- 89 Oliver, “ “ July 11, 1735.
- 90 Jabez, “ “ March 19, 1737.
- 91 Stephen, “ “ September 19, 1739.
- 92 Lucy, “ “ April 24, 1742.
- 93 Amasa, “ Pepperell, May 21, 1744.
- 94 Sarah, “ “ May 29, 1746.

John Kemp, Jr., served as a private in the Indian wars.

Oliver Kemp served as a private in the Indian wars.

Stephen Kemp served in the Indian wars.

Amasa Kemp served both in the Indian and Revolutionary wars.

XXV Dorothy, daughter of Zerubbabel and Mary Kemp, baptized, in Groton, Massachusetts, on February 11, 1711, married there, on January 13, 1730, Isaac Gilson of that place.

## Children :

Isaac, born in Groton, October 3, 1731.  
 Dorothy, " " September 17, 1733.  
 Joseph, " " April 6, 1741.

XXVII Hezekiah, son of Zerubbabel and Mary Kemp, baptized in Groton, Massachusetts, on August 14, 1715, married, in Chelmsford, probably in January, 1738, Dorothy Adams of that place. He married second, Rebecca ———. He died in Groton in 1790.

## Children :

95 Hezekiah, born in Groton, July 15, 1738.  
 96 Timothy, " " February 19, 1740.  
 97 Silas, " " November 11, 1741.  
 98 Abel, " " August 15, 1743.  
 99 Dorothy, " " May 2, 1745.

## By second wife :

100 William, " " April 16, 1755.  
 101 Patience, " " April 18, 1757.  
 102 Mary, " " October 11, 1759.

Hezekiah Kemp, jr., served as a private in the Indian and Revolutionary wars, as also his brothers Timothy, Silas, and Abel.

Abel Kemp married, in Pepperell, on May 4, 1775, Lucy Pratt of Groton.

Dorothy Kemp married, in Pepperell, on January 22, 1767, Simeon, son of Daniel and Elizabeth Nutting of that place, born in Groton, July 6, 1747.

William Kemp served as a sergeant in the war of the Revolution.

Patience Kemp married, in Groton, on October 30, 1781, Oliver Farnsworth, jr.

Mary Kemp married, in Groton, on December 12, 1791, Isaiah Edes of that place.

XXIX Joseph, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Gilson Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on January 16, 1737, married Lucy ———.

Children :

- |     |   |
|-----|---|
| 103 | Prudence, baptized in Groton, August 5, 1764. |
| 104 | Asa, " " " "                                  |
| 105 | Lucy, " " October 6, 1765.                    |
| 106 | Joel, " " April 16, 1769.                     |
| 107 | Ede, " " November 24, 1771.                   |
| 108 | Nehemiah, " " " 28, 1773.                     |
| 109 | Milley, " " May 10, 1778.                     |
| 110 | Tryphene " " November 5, 1780.                |

Joseph Kemp served in the Indian and Revolutionary wars.

Asa Kemp married, in Groton, on May 17, 1781, Alice Nutting of Pepperell. He served in the War of the Revolution.

Lucy Kemp married, in Groton, on November 3, 1789, James Ralph of that place.

Joel Kemp married, in Groton, on November 21, 1786, Bathsheba Kemp of Groton.

XXX Ephraim, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Gilson Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on March 22, 1741, married Esther ———. He died in Groton on April 30, 1812.

## Children :

111	Esther, baptized in Groton,	June 25, 1769.
112	Ephraim, “ “	February 24, 1771.
113	Anna, “ “	July 25, 1773.
114	Mary, “ “	September 14, 1777.
115	Abel, “ “	January 27, 1780.
116	Mary, “ “	October 26, 1783.
117	Sewall, “ “	October 9, 1785.

Ephraim Kemp, sr., served both in the Indian and Revolutionary wars.

Esther Kemp married, in Groton, on March 30, 1791, Oliver, son of Simon and Hannah Page of Shirley, born on April 17, 1767.

Mary Kemp, 2d, married, on February 19, 1799, Joseph Fillebrown of Cambridge.

XXXI Samuel, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Gilson Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on August 1, 1743, married there, on June 6, 1770, Elizabeth Kezer of Shirley, Massachusetts. She died on October 30, 1823.

## Children :

118	John, born in Groton,	March 3, 1771.
119	Ruth, “ “	October 25, 1772.
120	Elizabeth, “ “	October 13, 1774.
121	Sarah, “ “	December 8, 1776.
122	Emma, “ “	October 18, 1779.
123	Eunice, “ “	February 1, 1782.
124	Moses, “ “	May 27, 1786.
125	William, “ “	May 8, 1789.
126	Hannah, “ “	September 27, 1791.

Samuel Kemp served both in the Indian and Revolutionary wars, in the last-named as a serjeant.

John Kemp married, in Pepperell, on April 10, 1798, Sarah, daughter of Joseph and Mary Lampson Shattuck, born April, 27, 1780.

Ruth Kemp married, in Pepperell, on November 8, 1798, Sewall, son of James and Esther Tarbell, born on April 5, 1770.

Sarah Kemp married, in Groton, on March 8, 1798, Sewall Brooks of Westminster, Massachusetts.

Eunice Kemp married, in Groton, on August 14, 1804, Aaron Woodbury of Salem.

Moses Kemp married, in Groton, on August 24, 1809, Nancy, daughter of Caleb and Elizabeth Farnsworth Blood, born there on May 27, 1791, being, it is said, Caleb Blood's twenty-seventh child.

William Kemp married, on February 9, 1810, Polly Blood of Groton.

Hannah Kemp married, on September 28, 1818, Dickerson Brooks of Ashburnham, Massachusetts.

XLVI Elizabeth, daughter of David and Hannah Sawtell Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on December 31, 1760, married there, on June 18, 1782, Samuel Hods-kin of New Salem.

Children:

Elizabeth, baptized in Groton, August 7, 1785.

David, " " October 12, 1788.

LI William, son of Ebenezer and Mary Bradstreet Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on September 2, 1753, married, in Billerica, Massachusetts, on October 10, 1769, Abigail Clarke.

## Children :

127 James, born in Billerica, February 11, 1771.

128 William, " " April 27, 1773.

129 Abigail, " " June 5, 1775.

William Kemp, sr., served as a sergeant in the Revolutionary War.

William Kemp, jr., married on December 4, 1800, Sarah Wilson.

- LIV Simeon, son of Ebenezer and Mary Bradstreet Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on September 28, 1758, married there, on May 6, 1784, Tryphena, daughter of Ephraim and Azubah Parker, born in Groton on August 14, 1760.

## Children :

130 Abigail Sawtell, baptized in Groton, November 19, 1786.

131 Tryphena, baptized in Groton, March 4, 1787.

132 Emma, " " July 19, 1789.

133 David Green, baptized in Groton, August 21, 1791.

134 Simeon, baptized in Groton, January 19, 1800.

Simeon Kemp, sr., served as a private in the Revolutionary War.

- LVII Oliver, son of Ebenezer and Mary Bradstreet Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on June 27, 1765, married there, on April 12, 1790, Lydia, daughter of Oliver and Sarah Darling Blood, born in Groton, on March 31, 1756.

Children :

- 135 Mary, baptized in Groton, September 21, 1794.
- 136 Sabra, " " June 28, 1795.
- 137 Phebe, " " September 14, 1796.
- 138 George, " " May 20, 1798.

LIX Jason, son of Joseph and Margaret Chamberlain Kemp, born in Billerica, Massachusetts, on November 11, 1725, married there, probably in 1747, Hannah, daughter of Robert and Hannah Meers, born in Billerica, on April 21, 1728. He died in the town of Henniker, New Hampshire, on March 3, 1800.

Children :

- 139 Hannah, born in Billerica, April 12, 1748.
- 140 William, " " January 10, 1750.
- 141 Lucy, " " February 22, 1752.
- 142 Reuben, " " Probably in 1754.
- 143 Thaddeus, " " January 22, 1757.
- 144 Levi, " " June 20, 1760.
- 145 Elijah, " " February 4, 1762.
- 146 Kezia, " " March 17, 1764.
- 147 Rhoda, " " October 3, 1767.

Jason Kemp served as a private both in the Indian and Revolutionary wars.

Hannah Kemp married, in Billerica, on December 12, 1771, Joseph Parry.

William Kemp married, in Groton, on March 30, 1780, Emma Farnsworth of that place. He served as a sergeant in the Revolutionary War.

Lucy Kemp married, in Billerica, on January 4, 1775, Thomas Brown.

Reuben Kemp served as a private in the Revolutionary War.

Thaddeus Kemp served as a private in the Revolutionary War.

Elijah Kemp served in the Revolutionary War.

\*LXI Benjamin, son of Joseph and Margaret Chamberlain Kemp, born in Billerica, Massachusetts, on June 20, 1731, married, in Chelmsford, Massachusetts, on May 5, 1761, Judith, daughter of John and Judith Proctor Reed, born in Woburn, Massachusetts, on November 10, 1745. He died in Acworth, New Hampshire, on July 12, 1809, and she on October 24, 1837.

Children :

- 148 Judith, born in Chelmsford, February 10, 1762.
- 149 Benjamin, " " February 22, 1764.
- \*150 John Reed, " " May 19, 1766.
- 151 Martha, " " August 27, 1768.
- 152 James, " Ashburnham, February 3, 1771.
- 153 Kezia, " " August 8, 1773.
- 154 Mary,
- 155 Dorothy,
- 156 Elizabeth,
- 157 Sarah,
- 158 Aaron,
- 159 Moses P.,
- 160 Jane.

Benjamin Kemp, sr., served both in the Indian and Revolutionary wars.

Benjamin Kemp, jr., served in the Revolutionary War.

Judith Kemp married John, son of Robert Davidson.

James Kemp died young.

Kezia Kemp died unmarried.

Mary Kemp married John Hayward.

Dorothy Kemp died at the age of two years.

Elizabeth Kemp married Daniel Kemp, residing in Vermont.

Sarah Kemp died young.

Aaron Kemp married first, Dorothy Allen, and second, Mary Reed Shedd.

Moses P. Kemp married Mary Reed.

Jane Kemp married Ebenezer Buswell.

LXIII Jacob, son of Joseph and Margaret Chamberlain Kemp, born in Billerica, Massachusetts, on August 12, 1735, married, in Concord, Massachusetts, on December 14, 1758, Martha Melven of that place. He married second, in Concord, on February 26, 1778, Susanna Lock of that place.

Child:

161 Benjamin, born in Chelmsford, September 15, 1761.

Jacob Kemp at the time of his first marriage was living at Concord. He was a tax-payer in the town of Chelmsford in 1762 and 1763. At the time of his second marriage he was again residing at Concord. He served in the Revolutionary War.

LXVII Josiah, son of Josiah and Rachel Davis Kemp, born in Chelmsford, Massachusetts, on January 26, 1733, married there, in July, 1758, Sarah Purrot of that place. He died prior to March, 1763. She married second, William Fletcher of Concord, Massachusetts, and settled in Norridgewock, Maine.

Children :

162 Sarah, born in 1759.

163 Rachel, " in 1761.

Rachel Kemp probably married on December 24, 1795,  
Noah Cook of Shelburne, Massachusetts.

LXXXII Thomas, son of Zerubbabel and Abigail Lawrence Kemp,  
born in Groton, Massachusetts, about 1745, married,  
in Hollis, New Hampshire, on October 5, 1769, Me-  
hetable Lovejoy.

Children :

164 Mehetable, born in Hollis, January 28, 1771.

165 Thomas, " " May 21, 1775.

166 Asa, " " April 18, 1777.

167 William, " " July 26, 1779.

168 Zerubbabel, } twins born in Hollis, January 20,

169 John, } 1781.

170 Aaron, born in Hollis, April 13, 1785.

171 Mindwell, " " July 10, 1787.

Aaron Kemp married, on May 19, 1808, Elizabeth  
Luscomb.

Thomas Kemp, sr., served as a first lieutenant in the  
Revolutionary War, and was wounded in the battle of  
Bunker Hill.

LXXXVIII Lawrence, son of John and Sarah Holden Kemp, born  
in Groton, Massachusetts, on September 24, 1733,  
married, in Deerfield, Massachusetts, on July 12, 1756,  
Dorothy, daughter of John Stebbens, born in 1738.  
He died on October 4, 1805, and she on October 6,  
1820.

Children :

- 172 Oliver, born in Deerfield, December 15, 1757.
- 173 Solomon, " " May 23, 1759.
- 174 John, baptized in Deerfield, in 1766.
- 175 Dorothy, " " in 1766.
- 176 Hannah
- 177 Lawrence, born in Shelburne, Mass., March 3, 1776.
- 178 Mehetable, " " August 9, 1779.

Lawrence Kemp, sr., moved to Shelburne in 1769.

Lawrence Kemp, sr., served as a private in the Indian wars and as a captain in the Revolutionary War.

Solomon Kemp died on August 20, 1762.

John Kemp married, in Shelburne, Hannah Wells. He served as a private, a matross, and a quartermaster in the Revolutionary War.

Dorothy Kemp, married in Shelburne, Abel Wilder of Charlemont.

Hannah Kemp died on February 22, 1786.

CXXV William, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Kezar Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on May 8, 1789, married there, on February 8, 1810, Mary, daughter of Caleb and Elizabeth Farnsworth Blood. She died in Groton on March 1, 1869, and he on September 28, 1885.

Children :

- 179 Mary, born in Groton, December 10, 1810.
- 180 Almira, " " March 18, 1813.
- 181 William, " " February 22, 1815.
- 182 Harriet, " " May 16, 1818.
- 183 Sarah J., born in Shirley, Mass., March 4, 1823.

184 James L., born in Lunenburg, Mass., March 20, 1825.

185 Catharine, " " January 28, 1827.

186 Charles R., born in Townsend, Mass., August 15,  
1829.

187 Harriet M., born in Groton, May 6, 1832.

Almira Kemp died unmarried on October 10, 1844.

CXXVII James, son of William and Abigail Clarke Kemp, born in Billerica, Massachusetts, on February 11, 1771, married Margaret Craft.

Children :

188 Joanna, born in 1805.

189 James, " 1807.

190 Ansil, " 1808.

191 James

James, the second child, died young.

CXLIV Levi, son of Jason and Hannah Meers Kemp, born in Billerica, Massachusetts, on June 20, 1760 [?], married, in Groton, on September 28, 1769, Rebecca, daughter of William and Rebecca Nevers, born in Groton on August 20, 1750. He died on November 1, 1841, and she on March 29, 1845.

Children :

192 Jabez, baptized in Groton, November 4, 1770.

193 Levi, born in " about 1776.

194 Stephen, " " 1782.

195 Rebecca

Stephen Kemp died in Groton on April 29, 1809. Rebecca, the fourth daughter, wife of James Newhall, died on October 26, 1812.

Stephen Kemp was one of the petitioners to have

Stewartstown, New Hampshire, incorporated, the petition being dated November 23, 1799. The place was incorporated on December 24, 1799.

Levi Kemp was a resident of Hopkinton, New Hampshire, on January 24, 1786.—*Vide*: Documents relating to Towns in New Hampshire. Edited by Isaac W. Hammond, vol. xii. p. 263; vol. xiii. p. 455.

- \* CL John Reed, son of Benjamin and Judith Reed Kemp, born in Chelmsford, Massachusetts, on May 19, 1766, married, in Pepperell, on October 19, 1786, Hannah, daughter of Benjamin and Hannah Wheeler, born there September 19, 1769.

Children:

196 John, born April 22, 1788.

197 Joseph, " May 1, 1789.

\* 198 James, born in Fitchburg, Mass., September 21, 1791.

199 Benjamin, born in Fitchburg, Mass., February 1, 1794.

200 Daniel, born April 8, 1796.

201 Mary, " August 28, 1799.

202 Abel, " September 28, 1800.

203 Abel H., " August 26, 1802.

204 Aaron, " September 27, 1805.

- CLXV Thomas, son of Thomas and Mehetable Lovejoy Kemp, born in Hollis, New Hampshire, on May 21, 1775, married Hannah Hobart.

Children:

205 Levi, born in Hollis, September 6, 1793.

206 Ralph, " " March 28, 1796.

CLXXVII Lawrence, son of Lawrence and Dorothy Stebbins Kemp, born in Shelburne, Massachusetts, on March 3, 1766, married there, in September, 1799, Mehetable Ellis of Buckland, born in Ashfield, on August 17, 1779. He died in Shelburne, on August 3, 1821.

Children :

207	Lawrence,	born in Shelburne,	February 12, 1800.
208	Lawrence,	" "	September, 21, 1802.
209	Abner,	" "	February 12, 1804.
210	John Stebbins,	" "	February 6, 1806.
211	Lawrence,	" "	January 25, 1808.
212	Benjamin,	" "	December 9, 1810.
213	Joseph,	" "	August 30, 1813.
214	Noah C.,	" "	February 16, 1817.

CLXXXI William, son of William and Mary Blood Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on February 22, 1815, married there, on September 16, 1840, Susan Lawrence.

Children :

215	Mary Ellen,	born in Groton,	August 2, 1841.
216	Charles F.,	" "	September 12, 1843.
217	George Henry,	" "	December 4, 1844.
218	Andrew Preston,	" "	March 20, 1848.
219	Julia Augusta,	" "	December 22, 1852.
220	Josephine Bigelow,	born in Groton,	October 23, 1854.

CXCIII Levi, son of Levi and Rebecca Nevers Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, about 1776, married there, on January 7, 1798, Jerusha Wyman of Groton.

Children :

221 Loiza, baptized in Groton, June 5, 1803.

222 Jerusha, " " " "

223 John Wyman, baptized in Groton, June 5, 1803.

\*CXCVIII James, son of John Reed and Hannah Wheeler Kemp, born in Fitchburg, Massachusetts, on September 21, 1791, married, in Lansingburg, Renssalaer County, New York, in 1818, Elizabeth, daughter of John and Elizabeth Haggerty, born there on January 1, 1800. She died in Troy, Renssalaer County, New York, on December 5, 1835, and he on August 30, 1869.

Children :

224 Margaret, born in Waterford, N. Y., September 16, 1819.

225 John, born in Troy, March 19, 1822.

226 Sarah, " " November 21, 1826.

\*227 William, " " January 14, 1829.

228 Elizabeth, born in Troy, 1832.

Margaret Kemp married, in Troy, Elias G. Numan, and they resided at No. 142 Fifth Street until her death, in 1844.

John Kemp died, unmarried, in Troy, on July 8, 1839.

Sarah Kemp married, in Troy, Arad B. Gilbert, and at the time of her death they resided in New York City.

Elizabeth Kemp died, in Troy, in infancy.

CXCIX Benjamin, son of John Reed and Hannah Wheeler Kemp, born in Fitchburg, Massachusetts, on February 1, 1794, married in —, on November —,

1815, Nancy Buswell. He died in Langdon, New Hampshire, on December 16, 1835.

Children :

- 229 John Buswell, born January 27, 1816.
- 230 Orlin Reed, born in Rockingham, Vt., May 1, 1818.
- 231 James Harmon, born July 8, 1820.
- 232 Joseph A., born March 21, 1822.
- 233 Lavina N.
- 234 Sarah, born May 20, 1826.
- 235 Jacob Hayward, born October 28, 1828.
- 236 Mary Jane, born June 11, 1831.

John Buswell Kemp married Laura Reed. He died on May 27, 1840. Children :

Benjamin H., Edwin H., and Orlin R.

Orlin Reed Kemp married, in Acworth, New Hampshire, on April 22, 1841, Mary Reed. He died there on June 11, 1885.

James Harmon Kemp married first, Mary Kenny; second, Lucy Sturtevant. He resided in Windsor, Vermont, where he died on August 31, 1894.

Joseph A. Kemp married first, Amy C. Sisson; and second, Susan Hyde. He died on December 1, 1889.

Lavina Kemp married Hiram K. Towle, and resides in Boston, Massachusetts.

Sarah Kemp died on March 19, 1830.

Jacob Hayward Kemp married Melissa E. Flanders. He resides in Vienna, New York.

Mary Jane Kemp married Charles D. Sampson.

\*CCXXVII William, son of James and Elizabeth Haggerty Kemp, born in Troy, Rensselaer County, New York, on January 14, 1829, married there, on December 22,

1850, Rebecca, daughter of John and Mary Cantrell, born in Nottingham, England, on January 10, 1832. She died in Troy, on August 27, 1872. He married second, in Troy, on September 16, 1873, Martha Bogert, daughter of David and Catharine Bogert, born in Hackensack, New Jersey, on April 7, 1843.

Children :

- 237 Sarah Gilbert, born in Troy, September 22, 1851.
- 238 James, " " May 23, 1853.
- 239 William, " " July 22, 1855.
- 240 Emeline Louise, " " September 25, 1859.
- 241 Robert Morris, " " September 15, 1861.

Sarah Gilbert Kemp died in Troy on September 9, 1852.

CCXXXVIII James, son of William and Rebecca Cantrell Kemp, born in Troy, Rensselaer County, New York, May 23, 1853, married there, October 13, 1874, Carrie Wheeler, daughter of Francis and Mary Jane Drake, born in Troy, April 9, 1853. He died in Troy, January 8, 1890.

Children :

- 242 Edward Jay, born in Troy, November 20, 1875.
- 243 Mary Rebecca, " " September 9, 1877.
- 244 Francis DeForest, " " December 16, 1880.

King Solomon's Primitive Lodge, No. 91, of Free and Accepted Masons, conferred the first degree of masonry upon James Kemp, on April 10, 1875; the second, on April 25, that year; the third, on June 14, that year.

James Kemp became a member of Trojan Hook and Ladder Company, No. 3, on July 23, 1885, and continued to be until his death.

CCXXXIX William, son of William and Rebecca Cantrell Kemp, born in Troy, Rensselaer County, New York, on July 22, 1855, married, in Sparta, Monroe County, Wisconsin, on February 16, 1881, Jessie Bell, daughter of Henry and Cornelia Robertson Foster.

Children:

- 245 Jessie Cornelia, born in Troy, January 11, 1882.
- 246 William Foster,     "     "     September 23, 1883.
- 247 William,            "     "     May 2, 1892.
- 248 Robert Morris,     "     "     August 26, 1895.

William Kemp, jr., became a member of Trojan Hook and Ladder Company, No. 3, on December 28, 1876, and continued to be until he resigned, on August 23, 1888. He again united with it on August 31, 1891. He was elected a member of the 'Troy Citizens' Corps (Sixth Separate Company of the National Guard of the State of New York), and, having completed his five years of service, became a member of the Senior Company of Troy Citizens' Corps. King Solomon's Primitive Lodge, No. 91, of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, conferred upon him its degrees. Since February 15, 1896, he has been president of the J. B. Carr Company, operating the American Chain Cable Works in Troy; and, since January, 1899, has been secretary of the Adams Laundry Machinery Company.

His son, William Foster Kemp, died in Troy on December 20, 1888.

CCXL Emeline Louise, daughter of William and Rebecca Cantrell Kemp, born in Troy, Rensselaer County, New York, on September 25, 1859, married there, on April 22, 1885, Reuben Robie, son of James and Har-

riet Robie Lyon, born in Bath, Steuben County, New York, on March 2, 1857.

Children :

William Kemp, born in Bath, August 22, 1886.

Harriet, " " March 28, 1894.

James, " " September 16, 1896.

James died in Bath in 1899.

CCXLI Robert Morris, son of William and Rebecca Cantrell Kemp, born in Troy, Rensselaer County, New York, on September 15, 1861, entered, as a Freshman, Williams College, at Williamstown, Massachusetts, in September, 1881, and was graduated on July 1, 1885. He is a member of the Lambda Chapter of the Delta Psi Fraternity. In the fall of 1886 he entered Berkeley Theological Seminary, at Middletown, Connecticut, whence he was graduated on June 5, 1889. He was ordained a deacon of the Protestant Episcopal Church in America, at All Saints' Cathedral, in Albany, New York, by the Right Rev. William Croswell Doane, bishop of the Diocese of Albany on June 10, 1889. He was advanced to the priesthood at All Saints' Cathedral, by the Right Rev. William Croswell Doane, on Saturday preceding Trinity Sunday, in June, 1890. As a deacon, he was called to Saint Paul's, Trinity Parish, in New York City, and there entered upon his duties on July 1, 1889, and continued there after his advancement to the priesthood, and is still stationed there. He became a member of Howard Lodge, New York City, of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons in 1904, on the semi-centennial of his father's initiation.

## XXII

## COLONIAL MILITARY SERVICE

- 1 Abel, son of Hezekiah and Dorothy Adams Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on August 15, 1743, entered as a private in Captain Thomas Farrington's company, on March 6, 1760, and served until November 12, that year: thirty-six weeks. He again, as a private, entered the company, commanded by the same officer, on May 5, 1761, and served until November 17, that year: twenty-eight weeks. As a private, he entered the company commanded by Captain John Nixon, on November 18, 1761, and served until July 14, 1762: thirty-four weeks.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives, vol. xcvi, p. 35; vol. xcix, pp. 130, 233.
- 2 Amasa, son of John and Sarah Holden Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on May 21, 1744, entered as a private in Captain James Reed's company, on March 15, 1760, and served until November 30, that year: thirty-seven weeks.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives, vol. xcix, p. 224.
- 3 Benjamin, son of Joseph and Margaret Chamberlain Kemp, born in Billerica, Massachusetts, on June 20, 1731, enlisted as a private, on May 1, 1758, in Captain Jonathan Butterfield's company, which went in the expedition that year against Canada.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives, vol. xcvi, p. 135.
- 4 David, son of Samuel and Sarah Lacey Kemp, born in

Groton, Massachusetts, on September 30, 1722, enlisted as a private in Captain Benjamin Ballard's company, on April 7, 1755, and served until October 24, that year: twenty-eight weeks and five days, in the expedition against Crown Point. He enlisted again as a private, and was placed in Captain William Peabody's company, in Colonel Ichabod Plaisted's regiment, on April 22, 1756, and served until October 12, that year: twenty-four weeks and six days, in the Crown Point expedition. As a private, he enlisted a third time, and was assigned to Captain Leonard Whiting's company, in Brigadier-General Ruggles's regiment, on April 2, 1759, and served to November 29, that year: thirty-four weeks and four days, in the expedition against Fort Carillon, at Ticonderoga. On February 27, 1760, he enlisted in Captain John Chapham's company, and served until November 12, that year: forty weeks.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives, vol. xciv, pp. 123, 395, 484; vol. xcv, p. 101; vol. xcvi, pp. 183, 202, 346; vol. xcix, p. 257.

- 5 Ebenezer, son of Samuel and Sarah Lacey Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, in April, 1729, is named on a list of soldiers, dated December 19, 1758, as serving as bayonet-man in Captain James Prescott's company of Groton militia.—*Vide*: Groton During the Indian Wars. By Samuel A. Green. Groton, Massachusetts, 1883, p. 117.
- 6 Ephraim, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Gilson Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on March 22, 1741, enlisted on March 15, 1760, in Captain Thomas Farrington's company, and served to December 2, that year:

- thirty-seven weeks and four days.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives, vol. xcvi, p. 351.
- 7 Ezekiel, son of Josiah and Rachel Davis Kemp, born in Billerica, Massachusetts, on March 28, 1741, enlisted on April 1, 1758, in Captain Jonathan Butterfield's company, and served in the expedition against Canada, that year.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives, vol. xcvi, pp. 134, 227, 296.
- 8 Hezekiah, son of Hezekiah and Dorothy Adams Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on July 15, 1738, served as a private in May, 1755, at "Bason of Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia," in Captain Ephraim Jones's company. He enlisted on March 31, 1759, in Captain Leonard Whiting's company, in Brigadier-General Ruggles's regiment, and served as a private until December 7, that year: thirty-six weeks, in the expedition against Crown Point. He enlisted on March 6, 1760, in Captain Thomas Farrington's company, and served as a sergeant until January 23, 1761, forty weeks and two days. On April 18, 1761, he entered as an ensign in Captain Thomas Farrington's company, and served until December 5, that year: thirty-three weeks and one day with it, in Colonel Richard Saltonstall's regiment. On March 4, 1762, he entered as an ensign in Captain James Reed's company, and served until December 1, that year: thirty-nine weeks.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives, vol. xcvi, pp. 183, 202, 346; vol. xcvi, pp. 351, 352; vol. xcix, pp. 1, 120, 224.—Groton During the Indian Wars. By Samuel A. Green, Groton, Massachusetts, 1883, pp. 174, 176.
- 9 Jason, son of Joseph and Margaret Chamberlain Kemp,

born in Billerica, Massachusetts, on November 11, 1725, enlisted, as a private, in Captain Samuel Dakin's company, in Colonel Buckminster's regiment, on September 15, 1755, and served until October 2, that year: two weeks and four days, in expedition against Crown Point. — *Vide*: Massachusetts Archives, vol. xciii, p. 187; vol. xciv, p. 80.

- 10 John, son of John and Sarah Holden Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on June 4, 1732, enlisted on June 26, 1754, as a private, in Captain John Love's company, and served until September 30, that year: three months and one week. In May, 1755, in Captain Ephraim Jones's company, at the Bason of Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia. Served in Captain Thomas Tarbell's company, scouting near Groton, from July 7 to July 13, 1748. — *Vide*: Massachusetts Archives, vol. xciii, p. 118. — Groton During the Indian Wars. By Samuel A. Green, Groton, Massachusetts, 1883, pp. 154, 174, 176.
- 11 Joseph, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Gilson Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on January 16, 1737, enlisted, as a private, on April 24, 1755, in Captain Benjamin Ballard's company, and served until November 5, that year: twenty-eight weeks, in expedition against Crown Point. He enlisted, on May 2, 1757, in Lieutenant Zedekiah Stein's company, and served until November 30, that year: thirty weeks and three days. On March 29, 1758, he enlisted in Captain Thomas Lawrence's company, in Colonel Ebenezer Nichols's regiment, and served until November 11, that year: eight months and four days. After July 21, that year, he was in

Captain Ephraim Wesson's company. He enlisted, on April 2, 1759, in Captain Jonathan Butterfield's company, and served until December, that year: thirty-four weeks and six days, in expedition against Crown Point. On March 21, 1760, he enlisted in Captain Richard Sykes's company, and served until November 6, that year: thirty-three weeks.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives, vol. xciv, p. 123; vol. xcv, p. 33; vol. xcvi, p. 67; vol. xcvii, p. 206; vol. xcvii, pp. 159, 175, 364; vol. xcvi, p. 281.—Groton During the Indian Wars. By Samuel A. Green. Groton, Massachusetts, 1883, pp. 163, 165.

- 12 Josiah, son of Josiah and Rachel Davis Kemp, born in Chelmsford, Massachusetts, on January 26, 1733, entered, on March 30, 1759, Captain Jonathan Butterfield's company, as a private, and served to December 3, that year: thirty-five weeks and four days. On March 17, 1761, he entered Captain William Barron's company, as a private, and served until November 29, that year: thirty-six weeks and six days. On April 28, 1762, he enlisted, as a private, in Captain Benjamin Edwards's company, and served until November 15, that year: six months and sixteen days.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives, vol. xcvi, p. 308; vol. xcix, pp. 119, 208.
- 13 Lawrence, son of John and Sarah Holden Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on September 24, 1733, entered, as a private, Captain Israel Williams's company, on June 21, 1755, and served until September 15, that year, when he enlisted in Captain Nathaniel Dwight's company and served until December 10, that year: twenty-four weeks and four days.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives, vol. xciii, p. 205; vol. xcv, p. 168.

- 14 Oliver, son of John and Sarah Holden Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on July 11, 1735, was a private in Captain Ephraim Jones's company, and served in May, 1755, at the "Bason of Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia." On April 27, 1761, he enlisted, as a private, in Captain Leonard Whiting's company, and served until December 5, that year: thirty-one weeks and six days. — *Vide*: Groton During the Indian Wars. By Samuel A. Green. Groton, Massachusetts, 1883, pp. 174, 176. — Massachusetts Archives, vol. xcix, p. 122.
- 15 Phineas, son of Josiah and Rachel Davis Kemp, born in Chelmsford, Massachusetts, on February 18, 1732, was serving as a private in Captain Thomas Osgood's company at the "Bason of Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia" on May 28, 1755; his residence at that time being at Billerica. On June 21, 1757, he was killed near Ticonderoga in the expedition against the French. — *Vide*: Groton During the Indian Wars. By Samuel A. Green. Groton, Massachusetts, 1883, p. 175.
- 16 Samuel Kemp, who settled in Billerica, in Massachusetts Bay Colony, in 1658, was chosen the drummer of the local military company on October 24, 1661, organized for the protection of the settlement against hostile Indians. His participation as a settler of the town of Groton, in the defense of the several temporary fortifications, when attacked by the bands of savages under the leadership of King Philip, has been described in preceding pages and needs no further mention.
- 17 Samuel, son of Samuel and Sarah Lacey Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on April 13, 1716, a private in Captain William Lawrence's company, in the fall of

1746, when Boston was threatened by the French fleet commanded by the Duc d'Anville. He served, as a private, in Captain Thomas Tarbell's company, from July 7, 1748, to July 13, that year, scouting near Groton. — *Vide*: Groton During the Indian Wars. By Samuel A. Green. Groton, Massachusetts, 1883, pp. 150, 152, 154.

- 18 Samuel, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Gilson Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on August 1, 1743, entered, as a private, Captain Nathan Brigham's company on March 18, 1762, and served until November 13, that year: thirty-four weeks and three days. — *Vide*: Massachusetts Archives, vol. xcix, p. 234.
- 19 Silas, son of Hezekiah and Dorothy Adams Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on November 11, 1741, enlisted, as a private, on March 30, 1758, in Captain Thomas Lawrence's company, and served with it until July 21, when he was assigned to Captain Ephraim Wesson's company, in which he remained until October 31, that year, serving in the expedition against Canada: seven months and twenty days. He enlisted in Captain Leonard Whiting's company, in Brigadier-General Ruggles's regiment, on March 31, 1759, and served until December 7, that year. From March 6, 1760, to November 27, that year, he served in Captain Thomas Farrington's company as a drummer. Again, as a drummer, he served in Captain Thomas Farrington's company from April 28, 1761, to December 5, that year: thirty-one weeks and five days. — *Vide*: Massachusetts Archives, vol. xcvi, pp. 183, 202, 206, 346; vol. xcvi, p. 352; vol. xcix, p. 120. — Groton During the Indian

- Wars. By Samuel A. Green. Groton, Massachusetts, 1883, pp. 163, 165.
- 20 Stephen, son of John and Sarah Holden Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on September 19, 1739, entered, as a private, on April 5, 1758, in Captain Thomas Lawrence's company, in Colonel Ebenezer Nichols's regiment, and served in it until July 21, when he was assigned to Captain Ephraim Wesson's company, in which he remained until October 14, that year, when he was reported "dead."—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives, vol. xcvi, p. 206.—Groton During the Indian Wars. By Samuel A. Green. Groton, Massachusetts, 1883, pp. 163, 165.
- 21 Timothy, son of Hezekiah and Dorothy Adams Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on February 19, 1740; entered on March 15, 1756, in Captain Thomas Hartwell's company, in Colonel Jonathan Bagley's regiment, and served until November 5, that year: thirty-three weeks and five days, in Crown Point expedition.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives, vol. xciv, p. 169; vol. xcv, p. 651.

XXIII

REVOLUTIONARY WAR SERVICE

- 1 Abel, son of Hezekiah and Dorothy Adams Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on August 15, 1743, served in 1776, as a private, in Captain John Minot's company, in Colonel — Dike's regiment. Wages and travel allowed to and from Dorchester Heights.

Warrant for pay allowed on November 30, 1776.—*Vide* : Massachusetts Archives. Abstract of rolls, vol. lv, p. 34, file L.

- 2 Amasa, son of John and Sarah Holden Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on May 21, 1744, served as a sergeant in Captain Hugh McClellan's company, in Colonel Samuel Williams's regiment, which marched, on April 20, 1775, at Lexington alarms, from Shelburne, Massachusetts. Length of service, ten days. He enlisted on May 1, 1775, and served as a sergeant in Captain Agrippa Wells's company, in Colonel John Whitcomb's regiment. Term of service, three months and eight days. He enlisted on December 23, 1776, and served as a sergeant in Captain Benjamin Philips's company, in Lieutenant-Colonel Timothy Robinson's (Hampshire County) regiment. On February 24, 1777, in garrison, at Ticonderoga. Term of service, two months and one day. He enlisted on May 10, 1777, and served as a lieutenant in Captain Timothy Childs's company, in Colonel David Wells's regiment. Marched to Ticonderoga. Time of service, two months and eight days; ten days' travel included. Appointed second lieutenant on June 30, 1778, and, on July 1, that year, enrolled in Captain Enoch Chapin's company, in Colonel Jacob Gerrish's regiment. Commission dated October 6, 1778. Term of service, six months and two days. Service, guarding stores at Brookfield and Springfield. He enlisted on October 24, 1779, and served as a sergeant in Captain Sylvanus Rice's company, in Colonel Israel Chapin's regiment. Term of service, one month and five days; six days' travel included. Service

at Claverack, New York.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives, Lexington alarms, vol. xiii, p. 14; eight months' service, vol. xvi, p. 59; Muster- and pay-rolls, vol. xlvii, p. 80; Various service, vol. xvii, p. 237; Muster- and pay-rolls, vol. lxix, p. 66.

- 3 Amos Kemp, born in 1759, and residing in 1777 in Pelham, New Hampshire. He enlisted about the beginning of May, 1777, out of Captain Asa Richardson's company, and was mustered, on May 7, 1777, as a private, in Captain Frederick M. Bell's company, in Colonel Nathan Hale's (Second New Hampshire) regiment, for three years' service in the Continental Army; in 1778 the regiment was commanded by Colonel George Reid. He enlisted, on August 10, 1781, as a private, in Captain Joshua French's company, in Lieutenant-Colonel Enoch Putnam's regiment, raised to reinforce the Continental Army. Term of last service, three months and twenty-eight days.—*Vide*: New Hampshire Archives. Revolutionary War rolls, vol. xiv, pp. 588, 626; vol. xv, pp. 441, 720.—Massachusetts Archives. Enlisted men, vol. xxix, p. 207.
- 4 Asa, son of Joseph and Lucy Kemp, baptized in Groton, Massachusetts, on August 5, 1764, enlisted as a private, on April 26, 1778, in Captain Joseph Boynton's company, in Colonel Nathaniel Wade's regiment. Term of service, eight months and eleven days. Service in Rhode Island. He enlisted, on July 12, 1779, in Captain Thomas Hovey's company, in Colonel Nathan Tyler's regiment. Term of service, four months and nineteen days. Service in Rhode Island. He enlisted, on August 3, 1780, in Captain John Porter's company,

in Colonel Cyprian How's regiment. Term of service, three months and one day. Service in Rhode Island. He enlisted, on April 25, 1781, for three years' service in the Continental Army, and joined Captain Eleazer Thorp's company, in Lieutenant-Colonel John Brooks's Seventh Massachusetts Regiment.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives. Muster-rolls, vol. lv, pp. 37, 38; Miscellaneous muster-rolls, vol. lv, pp. 34, 35; Rhode Island service, vol. ii, pp. 105, 129, 132, 133; Various service, vol. xxii, p. 61; Books, enlisted men, vol. xxix, p. 14; Miscellaneous rolls, vol. lx, pp. 73, 74, 76; Worcester rolls, vol. li, file 11; Muster- and pay-rolls, vol. x, p. 244.

- 5 Benjamin, son of Joseph and Margaret Chamberlain Kemp, born in Billerica, Massachusetts, on June 20, 1731, became, in November, 1774, one of a company of forty Minute-men, organized in that month at Fitchburg, Massachusetts. At the Lexington alarm, the company marched, on April 19, 1775, to Concord. About the beginning of September, 1779, when residing at Pelham, New Hampshire, he enlisted as a private to serve two months, unless sooner discharged, and was sent, with a body of recruits under command of Ensign John Walles, to Portsmouth, New Hampshire, for the defense of that place, and joined Captain Joshua Lovejoy's company. Muster-roll dated September 27, 1779. On July 9, 1780, he enlisted, and served until October 24, as a private, in Captain James Aiken's company, in Colonel Thomas Bartlett's New Hampshire regiment, which was in the service of the United States at West Point, New York. Term of service, three months and sixteen days.—*Vide*: New Hampshire Archives. Rolls

of the soldiers of the Revolutionary War. Compiled and edited by Isaac W. Hammond, Concord, 1886. Vol. xv of the series; vol. ii of the War rolls, p. 698. Vol. xvi of the series; vol. iii of the War rolls, pp. 112, 113, 719, 720.

- 6 Benjamin, son of Benjamin and Judith Reed Kemp, born in Chelmsford, Massachusetts, on February 22, 1764, signed receipt for bounty, paid him by Captain Jonathan Wood, chairman of class one, town of Fitchburg, to serve in Continental Army for a term of three years. Receipt dated Worcester, May 14, 1782. He is named on an order dated January 23, 1784, for eight months' pay as a private, given on a memorandum of orders accepted on account of wages.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives. Muster- and pay-rolls, vol. liii, p. 209; vol. lxiv, p. 105.
- 7 Calvin Kemp enlisted, on March 4, 1777, in Captain Sylvanus Smith's company, in Colonel Timothy Bigelow's Fifth Massachusetts Regiment, for Continental service for three years. While in Captain Joshua Benson's company, in Colonel Rufus Putnam's Fifth Massachusetts Regiment, in garrison at West Point, New York, he, on January 22, 1781, was reported killed. He resided at Groton, Massachusetts, and was, at the time of his death, seventeen years old.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives. Muster- and pay-rolls, vol. lxviii, p. 74, vol. lxix, pp. 48, 53–56, 61, 62, vol. lxxi, pp. 132, 134; Militia officers, vol. xxviii, p. 193; Various service, vol. xxiii, p. 82; Miscellaneous rolls, vol. x, file 352; Depreciation rolls, vol. xxxi, p. 198; Enlisted men, vol. ii, p. 95; Worcester rolls, vol. 1, file 9; Enlistment rolls,

vol. x, p. 176; Continental Army books, vol. xv, part 1, p. 12; part 2, p. 38.

- 8 David, son of David and Hannah Sawtelle Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on January 25, 1758, was a private in Captain John Sawtell's company, in Colonel James Prescott's regiment, and marched, on April 19, 1775, at Lexington alarms, from Groton to Concord. Length of service, three and one half days. As a private, he enlisted at Groton, on April 27, 1775, in Captain Joshua Parker's company, in Colonel William Prescott's regiment, and in the battle at Bunker Hill he was captured by the enemy and confined in the Boston jail, where he died on September 10, that year. His name is engraved on the tablet at Bunker Hill, in memory of those killed and who lost their lives by wounds and captivity.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives. Lexington alarms, vol. xiii, p. 91; Cost-rolls, eight months' service, vol. lvi, p. 76; vol. xiv, p. 44.—New-England Chronicle, September 14, 1775.
- 9 David, son of Joseph and Margaret Chamberlain Kemp, born in Billerica, Massachusetts, on June 26, 1739, enlisted, as a private, on March 31, 1778, in Captain Isaac Wood's company, in Colonel Jonathan Reed's regiment, and subsequently in Captain John Dix's company, in Colonel Jacob Gerrish's regiment. Time of service, three months and four days. He enlisted on September 6, 1778, in Captain Simon Hunt's company, in Colonel Jacob Gerrish's regiment.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives. Various service, vol. xxiv, p. 56; Muster- and pay-rolls, vol. xlvi, p. 23; Various service, vol. xviii, p. 165; vol. xx, p. 75.

- 10 Dudley Bradstreet, son of Ebenezer and Mary Bradstreet Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, was a private in Captain James Hosley's company, in Colonel William Prescott's regiment, which marched, on April 19, 1775, from Townsend to Cambridge, on Lexington alarm. Length of service, nine days. He enlisted, on April 27, 1775, in Captain Henry Farwell's company, in Colonel William Prescott's regiment, and on June 3, 1775, in Captain Thomas Wait Foster's company, in Colonel Richard Gridley's artillery regiment. He enlisted, on March 10, 1777, out of Captain Thomas Warren's company, in Colonel Jonathan Reed's regiment, and joined Captain Hugh Maxwell's company, in Colonel Benjamin Tupper's regiment, in the Continental Army, and subsequently Captain Sylvanus Smith's company, in Colonel Timothy Bigelow's regiment; on Van Schaick's Island, with Northern Army, on September 1, 1777, and at Stillwater, on September 11, that year, and later at Saratoga; in the following winter, at Valley Forge. He served three years in the Continental armies; in 1779, 1780, and 1781, in Captain Michael G. Houdin's company, in Colonel Rufus Putnam's regiment.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives. Lexington alarms, vol. xii, p. 115; Cost-rolls, eight months' service, vol. xiv, p. 88, vol. lvi, p. 60; Muster- and pay-rolls, vol. x, p. 343, vol. xlviii, p. 321, vol. lxi, p. 201, vol. lxviii, p. 207, vol. lxix, pp. 50, 53-59, 61, 62, 70, 72, 73, 75, 76, 77, 89, vol. lxxi, p. 132; Miscellaneous rolls, vol. lxviii, pp. 210, 211; Depreciation rolls, vol. xxxi, p. 198; Enlistment rolls, vol. xli, p. 115, vol. liii, p. 234; Worcester rolls, vol. 1, file 9; Enlisted men, vol. xxix, p. 95.

- 11 Ebenezer, son of Ebenezer and Mary Bradstreet Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on July 11, 1750, marched, as a private, on April 19, 1775, at Lexington alarm, from Groton, in Captain Henry Farwell's company, in Colonel William Prescott's regiment. Length of service, six days. He enlisted, on April 25, 1775, in Captain Henry Farwell's company, in Colonel William Prescott's regiment, for eight months' service. He enlisted, on September 27, 1777, in Captain Asa Lawrence's company, in Colonel Jonathan Reed's regiment, in the Northern Army, under the command of Major-General Horatio Gates. Service, one month and fourteen days.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives. Lexington alarms, vol. xii, p. 62; Cost-rolls, eight months' service, vol. xiv, p. 96, vol. lvi, p. 60, vol. lvii, file 7; Various service, vol. xx, p. 188.
- 12 Elijah, son of Jason and Hannah Meers Kemp, born in Billerica, Massachusetts, on February 4, 1762, enlisted, as a private, on October 19, 1779, in Captain John Porter's company, in Colonel Samuel Denny's regiment. Service, one month and fifteen days, travel included. Service at Claverack, New York. He enlisted, on July 4, 1780, at Henniker, New Hampshire, to serve in the Continental Army for six months. Service, five months and fifteen days.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives. Various service, vol. xxii, p. 7. New Hampshire Archives. Revolutionary War rolls, vol. xvi, pp. 88, 95.
- 13 Ephraim, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Gilson Kemp, born in Groton on March 22, 1741, marched from Groton, on April 19, 1775, at Lexington alarm, in Captain Henry Farwell's company, in Colonel William Pres-

cott's regiment. Length of service, fourteen days. He enlisted, on September 27, 1777, in Captain Asa Lawrence's company, in Colonel Jonathan Reed's regiment, in the Northern Army, under the command of Major-General Horatio Gates. Service, one month and fourteen days.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives. Lexington alarms, vol. xii, p. 62; Various service, vol. xx, p. 188.

- 14 Hezekiah, son of Hezekiah and Dorothy Adams Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on July 15, 1738, served, in March, 1776, six days, as a private, in Captain Job Shattuck's company, in Colonel John Robinson's regiment.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives. Muster- and pay-rolls, vol. lv, p. 30, note.
- 15 Jacob, son of Joseph and Margaret Chamberlain Kemp, born in Billerica, Massachusetts, on August 12, 1735, served, as a private, in 1776 and 1777 in Captain Adam Wheeler's company, in Colonel Thomas Nixon's regiment, in the Continental Army. He enlisted, as a private, on August 16, 1777, in Captain George Minot's company, in Colonel Samuel Bullard's regiment. Service, three months and twenty-five days, travel included. On September 23, 1778, he enlisted, as a private, in Captain David Goodwin's company, in Colonel Cogswell's regiment. Service, three months and ten days. He enlisted, on October 23, 1779, in Captain Joshua Walker's company, in Colonel Samuel Denny's regiment. Service, one month and eleven days, travel included.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives. Continental Army books, vol. li, file 34, p. 32; Muster- and pay-rolls, vol. li, file 34, p. 7, vol. lii, pp. 106, 110, 122-151, 174-175, 192b; Various service, vol. xxi, p. 79; Rhode

Island service, vol. ii, p. 217; Various service, vol. iii, p. 239, vol. xix, p. 160.

- 16 Jason, son of Joseph and Margaret Chamberlain Kemp, born in Billerica, Massachusetts, on November 11, 1725; enlisted, on July 2, 1778, in Captain Joseph Boynton's company, in Colonel Nathaniel Wade's regiment. Service, three months and twelve days.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives. Miscellaneous rolls, vol. lv, p. m. 34, 35-38; Various service, vol. i, p. 63.
- 17 John, son of Lawrence and Dorothy Stebbins Kemp, baptized in Deerfield, Massachusetts, in 1766; marched, on April 19, 1775, from Medford, at Lexington alarm, in Captain Isaac Hall's company, in Colonel Thomas Gardner's regiment. Length of service, five days. He enlisted, in the fall of 1775, in Captain Isaac Hall's company, in Lieutenant-Colonel William Bond's regiment, for eight months' service. He was living at Medford. In December he was in Captain Caleb Brooks's company, in Colonel William Bond's regiment. In February, 1776, he was in Captain John Wood's company, in Colonel Jeduthan Baldwin's regiment. From February 1, 1777, to May 8, that year, he served as a matross in Captain David Henshaw's company, in Colonel Thomas Croft's artillery regiment. He enlisted, on September 25, 1777, in Captain John Willoughby's company, in Colonel Jonathan Chase's regiment, and marched from Plymouth to the assistance of the Northern Army, under command of Major-General Horatio Gates. He was discharged from service on October 28, that year. On February 20, 1778, he joined Captain William Tarlton's company, in Colonel

Timothy Bedel's regiment. He enlisted, on July 13, 1780, in Captain Isaac Newton's company, in Colonel Seth Murray's regiment. Service, three months and seven days, to reinforce Continental Army for three months. He was, later, in Captain John Long's company. He enlisted, on December 22, 1781, for twelve months, and was quartermaster on the frigate *Deane*, of which S. Nicholson was commander.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives. Lexington alarms, vol. xii, p. 114; Cost-rolls, eight months' service, vol. lvi, p. 249, vol. lvii, file 26. Soldiers' orders, vol. lviii, p. 9, file 12; Muster- and pay-rolls, vol. lviii, p. 4, files 8, 17, 19-22; Croft's rolls, vol. xxxviii, p. 74.—New Hampshire Archives. Revolutionary War rolls, vol. xv, p. 382, vol. xv, p. 928.—Massachusetts Archives. Various service, vol. xxi, p. 170; Muster- and pay-rolls, vol. xxiv, p. 29; Naval service, vol. lxvi, p. 121.

- 18 Jonas Kemp, of Westford, Massachusetts, marched, as a private, from Westford, on April 19, 1775, at Lexington alarm, in Captain Timothy Underwood's company, in Colonel William Prescott's regiment. Length of service, five days. He enlisted, on January 1, 1776, in Captain William Hudson Ballard's company, in Colonel Asa Whitcomb's regiment, and marched to Ticonderoga. Service, ten months and twenty-six days. He enlisted, on May 3, 1777, in Captain — Wright's company, in Colonel Jonathan Reed's (Sixth Middlesex County) regiment, and joined, for three years' service in Continental Army, Captain William Hudson Ballard's company, in Colonel Ichabod Alden's regiment; in June, that year, he was in Captain James Parker's company,

in Colonel Alden's regiment, and from January 1, 1780, to May 3, 1780, in Captain Asa Coburn's company, in Colonel John Brooks's regiment. His term of service, in Continental Army, expired on July 18, 1780. He enlisted, on August 10, 1780, in Captain John Porter's company, in Colonel Cyprian How's regiment. Service, two months and seven days.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives. Lexington alarms, vol. xiii, p. 149; Muster- and pay-rolls, vol. xlvi, p. 192, vol. lv, p. n. 80, vol. lxxiii, p. 24, vol. lxxii, p. 174; Enlistment rolls, vol. liii, p. 234; Enlistments, vol. lxvi, p. 112; Continental Army books, vol. vii, part 2, p. 87.

- 19 Jonas, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Gilson Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on July 27, 1760, enlisted, on August 15, 1777, in Captain Aaron Jewett's company, in Colonel Samuel Ballard's regiment, and took part in the battle of Saratoga. Term of service, three months and fifteen days. He enlisted, on April 26, 1778, in Captain Joseph Boynton's company, in Colonel Nathaniel Wade's regiment. Term of service, eight months and eleven days. He enlisted, on July 12, 1779, in Captain Thomas Hovey's company, in Colonel Nathan Tyler's regiment. Service, five months and ten days.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives. Various service, vol. xx, p. 96; Rhode Island service, vol. i, p. 63, vol. ii, p. 133.

- 20 Joseph, son of Joseph and Margaret Chamberlain Kemp, born in Billerica, Massachusetts, on June 20, 1727, enlisted, on May 4, 1775, in Captain Ebenezer Bancroft's company, in Colonel Ebenezer Bridges's regiment, and was killed in the battle of Bunker Hill, on

June 17, that year.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives. Cost-rolls, eight months' service, vol. xiv, p. 6; vol. xxxv, p. 36; vol. lvi, p. 185.

- 21 Joseph, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Gilson Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on January 16, 1737, was serving, as a private, in October, 1775, in Captain Joseph Moor's company, in Colonel William Prescott's regiment. He enlisted, on April 2, 1778, and served as a corporal in Captain Joseph Boynton's company, in Colonel Nathaniel Wade's regiment. Term of service, nine months and five days. He enlisted, on August 10, 1780, in Captain John Porter's company, in Colonel Cyprian How's regiment. Service, two months and twenty-five days. He enlisted, on April 25, 1781, for three years' service in the Continental Army, in Captain Francis Green's company, in Colonel Joseph Vose's regiment.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives. Cost-rolls, eight months' service, vol. lvi, p. 65; Various service, vol. i, p. 63, vol. xxii, p. 61; Worcester rolls, vol. li, file 15.
- 22 Lawrence, son of John and Sarah Holden Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on September 24, 1733, marched, on April 19, 1775, from Shelburne, at Lexington alarm, in Captain Hugh McClellan's company, in Colonel Samuel William's regiment. Length of service, fifteen and one half days. Commissioned captain and given command of a company in Colonel David Wells's (Fifth Hampshire County) regiment. From February 23, 1777, to April 10, that year, in Colonel Ebenezer Learned's regiment; service at Ticonderoga. On April 13, 1780, he resigned his captaincy at Shel-

- burne, and was discharged on April 25, that year, from service in Colonel David Wells's regiment.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives. Lexington alarms, vol. xiii, p. 14; Muster- and pay-rolls, vol. xlii, p. 150; Archives, vol. clxxvi, p. 295.
- 23 Nathaniel, son of Josiah and Rachel Davis Kemp, born in Chelmsford, Massachusetts, on February 6, 1737, marched from Dunstable, New Hampshire, on July 6, 1777, for Ticonderoga, and on the way thither received an order to return. Service, eight days.—*Vide*: New Hampshire Archives. Revolutionary War rolls, vol. xv, p. 79.
- 24 Phineas, son of David and Hannah Sawtell Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on June 21, 1749, enlisted out of Captain John Holden's company, in Colonel Jonathan Reed's regiment, on March 2, 1777, to serve in Continental Army for three years, and joined, as a matross, Captain Thomas Wells's company, in Colonel John Crane's artillery regiment. On June 29, 1778, he was killed in the battle of Monmouth.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives. Enlistment rolls, vol. liii, p. 205; Continental Army books, vol. xvii, part 1, p. 172; Muster- and pay-rolls, vol. xli, p. 42.
- 25 Reuben, son of Jason and Hannah Meers Kemp, born in Billerica, Massachusetts, probably in 1754, enlisted at Goffstown, New Hampshire, on April 23, 1775, in Captain Samuel Richards's company, in Colonel John Stark's regiment. Service, three months and sixteen days. On October 13, that year, he was reported as belonging to Captain Samuel Richards's company. On January 22, 1776, he was serving in Captain Daniel

- Wilkins's company, in Colonel Timothy Bedel's regiment of New Hampshire Rangers.—*Vide*: New Hampshire Archives. Revolutionary War rolls, vol. xiv, pp. 42, 56, 184, 267.
- 26 Samuel, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Gilson Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on August 1, 1743, marched, on April 19, 1775, from that place, at Lexington alarms, in Captain Henry Farwell's company, in Colonel William Prescott's regiment. Length of service, ten days. In January, 1776, he was serving in Captain Henry Farwell's company, in Colonel William Prescott's regiment. He also served in Captain Zachariah Fitch's company, in Colonel Samuel Brewer's regiment, from August 23 to September 30, 1776. He enlisted, on July 6, 1778, and as a sergeant served in Captain Joseph Boynton's company, in Colonel Nathaniel Wade's regiment, and received his discharge on January 1, 1779.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives. Lexington alarms, vol. xii, p. 62; Abstract of rolls, vol. xix, p. 176, vol. lii, p. 40; Various service, vol. i, p. 63.
- 27 Silas, son of Hezekiah and Dorothy Adams Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on November 11, 1741, enlisted, on July 7, 1779, in Captain Nehemiah Curtis's company, in Colonel Jonathan Mitchell's regiment, and received his discharge on September 25, 1779. Served at that time in the expedition to Penobscot.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives. Various service, vol. xxxv, p. 251; Naval service, xl, p. 120.
- 28 Simson, son of Josiah and Rachel Davis Kemp, born in Billerica, Massachusetts, on October 23, 1750, enlisted, on March 13, 1777, for three years' service in the

Continental Army, and joined Captain Sylvanus Smith's company, in Colonel Timothy Bigelow's regiment. He enlisted, on July 1, 1780, in Captain Sylvanus Smith's company, in Colonel Rufus Putnam's regiment, and was discharged on January 1, 1781.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives. Muster- and pay-rolls, vol. lxix, pp. 53, 54, vol. iv, p. 70; Worcester rolls, vol. 1, file 9.

- 29 Simson, son of Ebenezer and Mary Bradstreet Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on September 28, 1758; enlisted, at Westford, on April 30, 1775, as a private, in Captain Abijah Wyman's company, in Colonel William Prescott's regiment. Served, also, as a private, in 1776 and 1777, in Captain John Minot's company, in Colonel Dike's regiment. Enlisted, on July 5, 1777, in Captain John Parker's company, in Colonel Robinson's regiment, and was discharged on January 1, 1778. Enlisted, on January 1, 1778, in Captain Nathan Roule's company, in Colonel John Jacobs's regiment, and was discharged on January 1, 1779.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives. Eight months' service, vol. xvi, p. 76, vol. lvi, p. 66, vol. lvii, file 7; Abstract of rolls, vol. xxi, p. 82; Muster- and pay-rolls, vol. xxvi, p. 428; Rhode Island service, vol. iii, pp. 56, 94.
- 30 Solomon Kemp, of Bedford, Massachusetts, enlisted, on June 30, 1775, in Captain Ebenezer Bancroft's company, in Colonel Ebenezer Bridge's regiment, and was serving in the same, as a private, in September, that year.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives. Eight months' service, vol. xiv, p. 6, vol. lvi, p. 185.
- 31 Solomon Kemp, jr., paid by town of Belcherstown, Massachusetts, on April 9, 1781, bounty for enlisting in

Continental Army for three years.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives. Bounty receipts, vol. xxxiv, p. 58.

- 32 Thaddeus, son of Jason and Hannah Meers Kemp, born in Billerica, Massachusetts, on January 22, 1757; enlisted, on April 29, 1775, in Captain Luke Drury's company, in Colonel Jonathan Ward's regiment, for eight months' service.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives. Cost-rolls, eight months' service, vol. xiv, p. 72; vol. lvi, pp. 218, 227; vol. lvii, file 3.
- 33 Thomas, son of Zerubbabel and Abigail Lawrence Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, about 1745, marched, on April 19, 1775, from Hollis, New Hampshire, at Lexington alarms, in Captain Reuben Dow's company of Minute-men, and enlisted, on April 25, that year, in Captain Reuben Dow's company, in Colonel William Prescott's regiment, for eight months' service. He was wounded in the battle of Bunker Hill. In September, 1776, he was in Captain William Reed's company, in Colonel Nahum Baldwin's regiment. On July 20, 1777, he marched to the Hudson River, being a private in Captain John Goss's company, in Colonel Nichols's regiment, to reinforce the Northern Army, under the command of Major-General Horatio Gates. Service there and at Saratoga, two months and nine days. In 1777, 1778, and 1779 he, as a first lieutenant, served in Captain Nathaniel Chapman's company, in Colonel Benjamin Flower's artillery and artificers' regiment, in the Continental Army. He was stationed, from November 1, 1779, to March 18, 1780, at Springfield, Connecticut, under command of Major Joseph Eayres. He was discharged on June 30, 1780.—*Vide*: New Hampshire

Archives. Revolutionary War rolls, vol. xiv, pp. 33, 419; vol. xv, pp. 209, 210, 744, 773; vol. xvi, pp. 51, 53; vol. xvii, pp. 214, 457, 460.—Massachusetts Archives. Eight months' service, vol. xiv, p. 76; Cost-rolls, eight months' service, vol. lvi, p. 63.

- 34 William, son of Ebenezer and Mary Bradstreet Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on September 2, 1753, marched, on April 19, 1775, from that place, at Lexington alarms, in Captain Henry Farwell's company, in Colonel William Prescott's regiment. Length of service, fourteen days. He enlisted, on May 15, 1775, as a matross in Captain Thomas Wait Foster's company, and served, also, later in Captain Edward Croft's company, in Colonel Richard Gridley's artillery regiment. On March 5, 1777, he enlisted out of Captain John Holden's company, in Colonel Jacob Reed's regiment, into Captain Sylvanus Smith's company, in Colonel Timothy Bigelow's regiment, for three years' service in the Continental Army. In 1780, he again enlisted in the Continental Army, in Captain Sylvanus Smith's company, then in Colonel Rufus Putnam's regiment, and was made a corporal in September, 1781, and on July 29, 1782, a sergeant. In January, February, and March, 1783, he was serving in Captain Sylvanus Smith's company, in Lieutenant-Colonel David Cobb's regiment.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives. Lexington alarms, vol. xii, p. 62; Eight months' service, vol. xiv, p. 88; Muster- and pay-rolls, vol. vi, p. 1, vol. lxviii, pp. 201, 204, vol. lxix, pp. 28, 30, 39, 53, 58; Various service, vol. lxviii, p. 197; Miscellaneous rolls, vol. lxviii, pp. 207, 208, 210; Enlistment rolls, vol. liii, p. 234.

- 35 William, son of Jason and Hannah Meers Kemp, born in Billerica, Massachusetts, on January 10, 1750, marched from Peterboro, New Hampshire, on April 20, 1775, at Lexington alarms, in Captain William Scott's company, in Colonel Paul Dudley Sargent's regiment. Length of service, three days. He enlisted, on April 23, 1775, and served as a sergeant in Captain Samuel Richards's company, in Colonel John Stark's regiment. Service, three months and sixteen days. On October 6, 1775, he enlisted in Captain William Scott's company, in Colonel Paul Dudley Sargent's regiment. He enlisted, on January 4, 1777, and was mustered as a private on February 6, that year, in Captain Amos Morrill's company, in Colonel John Stark's (First New Hampshire) regiment, and was discharged on September 6, 1777. Prior to January 1, 1780, he was serving as a sergeant in the second company in Colonel Joseph Cilley's (First New Hampshire) regiment.—*Vide*: New Hampshire Archives. Revolutionary War rolls, vol. xiv, pp. 55, 602; vol. xv, pp. 712, 740; vol. xvi, p. 839.
- 36 William, son of Hezekiah and Rebecca Kemp, born in Groton, Massachusetts, on April 16, 1755, marched, on April 19, 1775, from Billerica, at Lexington alarms, in Captain Solomon Pollard's company, in Colonel ——— Green's regiment. Length of service, five days. He enlisted, on April 28, 1775, in Captain Charles Forbush's company, in Colonel Ebenezer Bridges's regiment. Service, three months and eleven days. On June 24, that year, he was serving in Captain Benjamin Walker's company, in Colonel Ebenezer Bridges's regiment. On October 31, 1776, he was serving in Captain Thomas

Warren's company, in Colonel Brooks's regiment. He enlisted on July 7, 1777, and served as a sergeant in Captain Nathaniel Larkin's company, in Colonel John Robinson's regiment, until January, 1778.—*Vide*: Massachusetts Archives. Lexington alarms, vol. xiii, p. 52; Muster- and pay-rolls, vol. xxiv, p. 55, vol. lix, p. 520; Eight months' service, vol. xiv, p. 95; Cost-rolls, eight months' service, vol. xxxv, p. 58; Various service, vol. lv, h. 60.

## XXIV

## APPENDIX

## SEABURY GENEALOGY

- " I. John Boston, died before 1662; married Grace, had John, went to Barbadoes; Samuel, December 10, 1642 (2); and some daughters.
- " II. Samuel, (son of I,) removed to Duxbury; a physician; —We find the following memorandum in Suffolk Deeds, vol. iii. [page 525]: 'Samuell Seabery sonne of y<sup>e</sup> late John Seabery of Boston (now liuing at Duxbury in Pli-mouth Pattent this 16 of Aprill 1662 Came to vnder-writt & desired me to enter his Clajme to a Certaine house & parcell of land heretofore belonging to his father John Seabery now belonging to his Brother Jn<sup>o</sup> Seabery of Barbadoes & himself. y<sup>e</sup> sajd house & land being in possession of one Nathaniall fryer & Jn<sup>o</sup> sweete for him who deteines it from them vnder a pretence of

a purchase from Alexander Adams & he from Jn<sup>o</sup> Milom the land being about halfe an acre more or lesse & bounded w<sup>th</sup> land formerly Isack Grosse northwest walter merry on the South East & south west & the bay north east w<sup>ch</sup> Caime of his y<sup>e</sup> sajd Samuell Seaberry in behalf of his brother & self he Resolves in Due Course of lawe to prosecute,' etc.

"His name is spelled variously, Sebury, Saberry, Saberrey (to his will), Sabery, &c. He owned lands at Island Creek, North river, the Gurnet, and at the brick-kilns. He married Patience Kemp, November 9, 1660, at Weymouth; she died October 29, 1676; married 2d, Martha Pabodie, April 4, 1677; he died August 5, 1681. His will gives to his son Samuel his landed property in Duxbury; to his son Joseph, 'those great silver buttons, which I usually weare'; to his son John 'my birding piece and musket'; 'I will that my negro servant Nimrod (valued at £27) be disposed off either hier or sale in order to the bringing up of my children, especially the three youngest now borne.'

"The Seabury house stood where Wait Wadsworth's now stands, and was a large old-fashioned building, very high in front, but with the roof nearly reaching to the ground behind. He had Elizabeth, September 16, 1661, who probably removed from the town, as in her mother's will, she has given her a negro girl Jane, and a cow 'if she returns'; Sarah, August 18, 1663, who also removed; Samuel, April 20, 1666 (3); Hannah, July 7, 1668; John, November 7, 1670, died March 18, 1672; Grace and Patience (*gemini*), March 1, 1673. Grace died March 16, 1673; Patience died March 17, 1673; Joseph,

June 8, 1678; Martha, September 23, 1679; John married Elizabeth Alden, December 9, 1697; and a posthumous child."—*Vide*: History of the Town of Duxbury, Mass., by Justin Winsor. Boston, 1849, pp. 305, 306.

Samuel Seabury, born in Duxbury, April 20, 1666, and his brother John, who married Elizabeth Alden, moved from there into Connecticut before the year 1700. "Samuel, in 1702, made purchases of land in Lebanon, but his name is not found on any early list of inhabitants of that plantation. John settled first at Stonington, where the birth of his son David is recorded, January 16, 1699. In 1704, he exchanged his farm in Stonington for one in Groton, to which he immediately removed, and being shortly afterward chosen a deacon in the Congregational Church is principally known to our local annals as Deacon John Seabury of Groton." His family was registered by the town clerk as follows: "John Seabury married Elizabeth Alden, December 9, 1697. Children: 1. David, born January 16, 1699; 2. John born, and dead in 1709; 3. Patience, born May 5, 1702; 4. John, May 22, 1704; 5. Samuel, July 8, 1706; 6. Mary, November 11, 1708; 7. Sarah, March 16, 1710-11; 8. Nathaniel, July 31, 1720. His relict Elizabeth, a granddaughter of John Alden of the *Mayflower*, is interred at Stonington. She died, January 4, 1771, aged ninety-four years."

Samuel Seabury, born July 8, 1706, son of John and Elizabeth Alden Seabury, graduated from Harvard College in 1724, and, being licensed as a Congregational minister, preached several months, in 1726, to the church in North Groton. In 1730, he declared himself

a convert to the Church of England, and the next year went to England, where he received Episcopal ordination from the Bishop of London. He was commissioned by the Society for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts. He was sent as a missionary by the society to New London, where, beginning April 10, 1732, he remained eleven years. His first wife was Abigail, daughter of Thomas Mumford. She died in 1731, leaving two children: Caleb, born February 27, 1728, and Samuel, November 30, 1729. After returning from England, he married Elizabeth, daughter of Adam Powell, of Newport, Rhode Island, and had by her six children. In 1743 he was transferred by the society, and labored in Hempstead, Long Island. He died June 15, 1764.

Samuel, the second son of the Rev. Samuel and Abigail Mumford Seabury, was born in Groton, Connecticut, November 30, 1729. He graduated from Yale College in 1748, and in 1750 went to Scotland to study medicine, but changed his design and turned his attention to theology. He was ordained a minister of the Church of England in 1750, and returned to America as a missionary of the Society for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts. At Aberdeen, Scotland, on November 14, 1784, he was consecrated a bishop, and in 1790 elected bishop of Rhode Island. He died February 25, 1796.—*Vide*: The History of New London, Connecticut, by Frances Mainwaring Caulkins. New London, 1895, pp. 419, 443-445.









